

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية 'الراي'

Syria denies exporting embargoed Iraqi oil

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria denied a report that it was importing Iraqi oil, which is under a U.N. embargo, and exporting it mixed with its own crude. Daud Hido, president of Syriat, the body responsible for marketing Syrian oil, said Syrian oil exports had increased but this was a result of newly discovered oilfields coming onstream. He denied a report in Petroleum Intelligence Weekly (PIW) last month that Syria was mixing its oil with Iraqi crude. "The increase is due to new developed oil discoveries in Syria," Mr. Hido said in a telex he sent to PIW. The telex, a copy of which was obtained by Reuters, gave no figures on the volume of current exports or of the increase. "There is no mixture of any Iraqi crude with any Syrian crude," Mr. Hido said. The PIW report, if true, would mean Syria was breaking U.N.-imposed sanctions which require U.N. members to stop lifting Iraqi oil. Syria, a member of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), produces around 480,000 barrels per day (bpd) of crude oil. PIW said there had been a 40,000 bpd increase in Syrian oil exports to over 200,000 bpd since February and suggested the increase could be coming from Iraqi oil exported to Syria by tanker trucks.

Kuwaiti diplomat escapes attack in India

NEW DELHI (AP) — Two assailants riding a motorcycle fired at Kuwait's senior-most diplomat in New Delhi Tuesday, but he escaped unhurt, police said. Charge d'Affaires Mithal Othman Al Rumiah was travelling in his car when the youths fired at him in the posh Connaught Place neighbourhood, said an official of the special task force in charge of diplomats' security in New Delhi. Mr. Rumiah was returning from a meeting of the Arab League when the assailants fired at his car near the Kuwait embassy at about 2:45 (0915 GMT), the official said. Security was tightened around the embassy following the attack. Senior police officials were investigating the attack and details were not immediately available, said the official speaking on condition of anonymity. Mr. Rumiah is in charge of the embassy in the absence of ambassador, D. Abdul Razzaq Razzaq. Officials said India had been keeping a close watch on some unidentified extremists accused of killing Arab diplomats in New Delhi in the past.

Jordan, Tunisia sign trade agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Tunisia Tuesday signed the minutes of deliberations of the joint Jordanian-Tunisian Committee at the conclusion of the committee's meetings here in Amman. The minutes were signed on the Jordanian side by Industry and Trade Minister Abdullah Ensour and on the Tunisian side by Minister of National Economy Sadek Al Rabeh. The minutes provide for allocating \$10 million for each of the Jordanian Trade Centre in Tunis and the Tunisian Trade Centre in Amman. According to the minutes, the two sides agreed to hold trade fairs in each country's capital in 1992-93 and to let them sell goods worth \$1 million. They also agreed to hold a Tunisian trade fair this year in Amman and to let it sell goods at a total cost of \$1.5 million directly to the public (see earlier story on page 3).

Cabinet approves telephone project

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet met Tuesday under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker and approved embarking on a project which will directly link telephone lines between Jordan and Syria. The Cabinet also approved sending a delegation from the Customs Department to represent Jordan at the Customs Cooperation Council meetings to be held in Brussels June 16-19 and approved the participation of Public Works and Housing Minister Saad Hayel Sarour in the Arab housing and construction ministers delegation which will visit Lebanon to assess the extent of damages incurred by the civil war there.

Bashir begins visit to Syria

DAMASCUS (AP) — Sudanese leader Omar Hassan Al Bashir arrived Tuesday for his first visit to Damascus since the Gulf war, when Sudan and Syria found themselves on opposite sides. It was Lieutenant-General Bashir's second visit since setting power as chairman of the leadership Council of the National Salvation Revolution in July 1989. His first was in February 1991 during the Gulf war. Sudan supported Iraq in the conflict while Syria took part in the U.S.-led military alliance that forced its eastern Arab neighbour to give up occupation of Kuwait. Gen. Bashir was greeted at Damascus airport by President Hafez Al Assad, who invited him to Syria, an official announcement said. The two leaders drove straight to Tishrin guest palace for talks on major regional issues and bilateral relations.

Jailed Egyptian war hero loses appeal

CAIRO (R) — A military court on Tuesday rejected an Egyptian war hero's appeal against a three-year prison sentence for disclosing war secrets. Retired Lieutenant-General Saadeddin Shazi, 70, who returned voluntarily to Egypt from exile in March despite the sentence hanging over him, began serving his term in a military prison, judicial sources said. They said the court erased hard labour from the sentence originally passed in July 1983 as Gen. Shazi was over 60 years old.

9 killed in Turkey clashes

ERZURUM, Turkey (AP) — Kurdish rebels ambushed a military vehicle in southeastern Turkey, killing five soldiers and two civilians on board, the state-owned Anadolu news agency reported Tuesday. Also Tuesday, two guerrillas were killed in separate clashes with the security forces in Bingol province, the agency said. The agency said the soldiers and the civilians died when the rebels attacked the military vehicle near Sindiran village in this province Monday. Kurdish guerrillas operating in the region belong to the illegal Kurdistan Labour Party, which has been fighting for self-rule in southeastern Turkey since 1984.

Rockets kill 40 in Kabul as rebel leaders talk peace

Combined agency dispatches

A BARRAGE OF ROCKETS killed at least 40 people and wounded 200 in Kabul on Tuesday as the new Islamic government and dissident guerrillas sat down to talk peace.

Afghan Television said the rockets were fired by "rebels" — a headline guerrillas pushed out of the city last week after heavy fighting.

Dozens of rockets fired by fighters supporting radical guerrilla chief Gulbuddin Hekmatyar landed throughout the city after government forces began an offensive at first light.

The boom of heavy government shelling rolled across the city after first light as tanks and artillery pounded the crests of the bare, rocky hills guarding Kabul's southern approach.

Forces loyal to Mr. Hekmatyar responded with barrages of rockets, many of them striking around the city's military headquarters. The head of the country's week-old interim government, meanwhile, suggested that he and his ruling council should serve for two years, rather than the agreed upon two months. The suggestion was almost certain to meet resistance from many of the rebel groups that fought to end communist rule.

The government named 36 Mujahedeen leaders on Tuesday as ministers in the transitional administration.

Apart from General Ahmad Shah Masood, who was named defence minister before the government formally took power, and Interior Minister Ahmad Shah, all the ministers were appointed for only two months.

Two of the appointed men said they were unsure whether to take up their jobs while fighting continued between the government and the Hezb-i-Islami group of Mr. Hekmatyar.

General Rahim Wardak, named as army chief of staff, said he needed time to decide, arguing he would find it painful to order government forces to fire on Mujahedeen.

Mr. Wardak said the fighting of the past week, which has killed scores of people, had shattered many of his dreams.

Doctors at the city's hospital said they expected the casualty toll in the rocket attacks to rise.

The exchanges were much more intense than on Monday when rockets fired by Hezb-i-Islami forces killed at least 13 people and wounded 77, the official media reported.

Mr. Hekmatyar's representative Qader Karyab acknowledged reluctantly that the rockets came from Hezb-i-Islami positions but said they were only in response to attacks on them.

Emerging from talks in the Kabul office of the new head of state, Sibghatullah Mojaddidi, Mr. Karyab said he hoped the armed confrontation would soon end.

"We are committed to establish peace and security in Kabul. We are in regular contact between brother Hekmatyar and the other Mujahedeen leaders," he said.

"I am asking Hezb-i-Islami people that they should act in a responsible manner and to think about the peace and security in Kabul."

Mr. Karyab, who arrived in Kabul on Monday night with a convoy of Mujahedeen fighters led by the leaders of several guerrilla groups in the government coalition, made clear that Mr. Hekmatyar had softened his demands.

(Continued on page 5)

Los Angeles remains calm; police under heavy criticism

Combined agency dispatches

POLICE CAME UNDER mounting criticism on Tuesday for not having moved quickly enough to snuff out fighting in the streets that grew into the worst rioting of the century in the United States.

As thousands of troops in full battle dress kept a close watch on the city's streets, Los Angeles remained calm after authorities lifted a dusk-to-dawn curfew that helped end three days of rioting.

But as the calm settled, the Los Angeles Police Department drew fire from critics who contended the rioting could have been averted if officers had done a better job at the start.

Some critics — including rank-and-file officers — said police administrators waited too long to marshal the city's forces, giving thousands of residents the impression they could join the civil disobedience with impunity.

The riots broke out in Los Angeles and spread to a dozen other cities after a mostly white jury last Wednesday acquitted four white policemen charged in the brutal beating of black motorist Rodney King.

As sociologists and psychologists searched for underlying motives to the rioting, state and local officials blamed one another and bickered over who was responsible for hours of delay in bringing police power to bear.

Police chief Daryl Gates, who is resigning as of June 1, was most heavily criticised for attending a dinner instead of remaining on the job as the unrest began.

Local television stations late on Monday showed films of the start of the violence on Wednesday, showing that even with marauders pulling motorists from cars, police were nowhere to be seen.

Radio and television stations broadcast interviews with police officers who said there was a paralysis at the highest levels of the department.

"They told us to wait, to stand by, to hold off, to stall while they decided what to do," said one officer.

"But the point is that while everybody figured the rioting was possible after the King jury came back, the department did nothing to get ready," he said.

Police estimated damages from three days of arson and looting at \$717 million, and said 58 people died.

An Los Angeles social activist organisation, the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights, charged that anarchy had been replaced by a police state.

(Continued on page 5)

Algeria goes ahead with trials despite violence

ALGIERS (Agencies) — Algeria put more Muslim fundamentalists on trial on Tuesday, less than 24 hours after 13 convicted killers were condemned to hang and a fresh wave of arson and violence left two dead.

Seven men accused of a raid on a naval post in Algiers last February in which 10 people were killed went on trial in a heavily guarded courtroom in Blida, 50 kilometres southeast of Algiers.

The defendants include three servicemen. One defendant, a mosque preacher, is still on the run.

Their trial came a day after a military court in the desert town of Oran sentenced 13 fundamentalists to hang following their convictions in an attack on a frontier post where three guardsmen were killed and mutilated.

The number of men condemned to death was the biggest in years. The sentences came at a tense time in this country where the fundamentalist Islamic Salvation Front (FIS), which was on its way to winning parliamentary elections before they were cancelled last January, has been banned and thousands of its members detained in camps.

A policeman and a Muslim militant were killed in a shootout at a house used as a hideout by gunmen, police said Tuesday.

Also Tuesday, arson attacks were reported in the eastern city of Constantine.

Police said the gunbattle occurred at an Algiers house used as a hideout since March by about eight fundamentalists who snatched automatic weapons and

homemade bombs there. Two policemen and two fundamentalists were wounded, two fundamentalists were arrested, and other suspects escaped, police said.

Witnesses heard bursts of automatic gunfire during the gunbattle. A Reuters correspondent saw at least four ambulances pass road blocks set up by police armed with automatic weapons.

Late on Monday, armoured cars mounted with machineguns patrolled the city along with other vehicles carrying armed men of the 23,000-strong gendarmerie.

"They are patrolling like they have done on past 'hot' days — like just before the elections," a resident said.

A fundamentalist student movement for the "Defence of the People's Choice" — a reference to the FIS election position — called for a strike at all universities starting on Tuesday.

Earlier this year, a minority group of Islamic students disrupted universities and forced several campuses to close.

Before dawn on Monday, arsonists set fire to university buildings in Setif, Blida and Constantine, and Algiers Radio reported more arson attempts overnight "against public property" in the last city. No casualties were reported.

In another development, Algeria has ordered the former ruling National Liberation Front (FLN) to immediately hand over its headquarters and other buildings to the government.

(Continued on page 5)

Security beefed up in Egyptian flashpoint

CAIRO (Agencies) — Security officials poured hundreds of police reinforcements Tuesday into a southern Egyptian village where 14 people died in coordinated Muslim extremist attacks on Christians.

Interior Minister Abdul Halim Moussa, the country's chief law officer, told parliament that three suspected gunmen were arrested and a search was on for others.

But he said tension had calmed in Manshiet Nasser, where a blood feud between Christians and Muslims led to Monday's carnage. The village is in Assiut province, 375 kilometres south of Cairo.

The provincial security chief, Nabil Ibadat, said after the attacks that 15 of the dozens of extremist gunmen were under arrest. Their status was unclear, and it was not known whether the three Mr. Moussa spoke of were among them.

Mr. Moussa did not disclose the number of police reinforcements in the new units dispatched to the area.

Thirteen Christians and one Muslim died in the worst fighting between followers of the two religions since 17 people were killed in Cairo street battles in 1981.

"They were trying to kill the pillars of the Christian community," an officer told Reuters at a checkpoint between the Manshiet Nasser and the predominantly Christian village of Sanabou.

The peninsula, which juts into the Black Sea, has a population that is 60 per cent Russian. It was part of the Russian Federation until its transfer to Ukrainian rule in 1954 to mark three centuries of union between the two Slav neighbours.

Nationalist Russian politicians have argued that the transfer violated Russia's constitution, fuelling suspicions in Ukraine that Moscow could try to retrieve the territory. Some have even called for talks on the issue with Kiev but Mr. Kravchuk says the Crimea must remain Ukrainian.

The Ukrainian parliament, evidently hoping to forestall an independence referendum, passed a law last month granting Crimea unprecedented independence within Ukraine.

The Crimea is possibly the most explosive issue in relations between the two states that form the axis of the 11-nation Commonwealth of Independent States.

There was no immediate report of retaliation from Israeli troops and their allied South Lebanon Army and no word on casualties from the Katyusha firing.

The Israeli army overran and briefly occupied two Lebanese villages in February after Katyushas were fired into the zone and northern Israel. Normally, it responds with shellfire against villages.

Israel carved out the zone in 1985 to shield its northern settlements from cross-border guerrilla attacks.

The 1,100-square-kilometre strip stretches from the Mediterranean coast to the slopes of Mount Hermon in the east. The enclave is routinely patrolled by 1,200 Israeli troops and 3,000 SLA militiamen.

The SLA meanwhile denied an Amnesty International report saying detainees at a South Lebanon prison were being tortured.

"There is no truth whatsoever to the report that prisoners have been tortured and beaten," said General Antoine Lahd, head of the SLA militia which runs Kham.

Gen. Lahd also denied the presence of Israelis at Kham.

The fortress-like detention camp has since 1985 housed Arabs either caught or suspected of attacking Israeli troops.

(Continued on page 5)



CHURCH RECONSECRATED: Latin Patriarch of the Holy Land Michel Sabbah kisses the altar during the reconsecration ceremony of the Church of Holy Sepulchre on Monday. The church was vandalised by an English-speaking man described by Israeli officials as a tourist two days earlier.

Jordan and Palestinians hold consultations on multilaterals

By Suhair Obeidat
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordanian and Palestinian officials Tuesday held a round of coordination talks ahead of the first working sessions of the multilateral phase of the Middle East peace process and put final touches to their strategy at the meetings to be held later this month, official sources said.

Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber met with some members of the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations to the multilaterals, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra. The news agency

said the meeting reviewed Jordan's views vis-a-vis issues to be discussed at these meetings.

The Palestinians have received invitations to at least two of the meetings: one on refugees to be held in Ottawa, Canada, and the other on regional economic cooperation scheduled for Brussels, Belgium.

"They discussed strategies of the negotiations and put the final touches to their participation," said a senior source.

Jordan has already finalised the list of its delegations while the Palestinians are expected to announce their negotiators soon, another source said.

Israel has repeatedly threatened to boycott the multilaterals if the Palestinian delegations include Palestinians from the diaspora. But the Palestinians say that the co-sponsors — the United States and Russia — have made it clear that the nature of the Palestinian delegation would not be an obstacle to their participation.

Palestinian spokeswoman Dr. Hanan Ashrawi said earlier this week that the nature of the Palestinian delegation is "not the business of the Israelis."

Jordan has for some time been preparing for the negotiations, (Continued on page 5)

Opponents of peace talks favour municipal elections

OCUPPED JERUSALEM (R) — An Israeli proposal for municipal elections in the occupied territories gained momentum on Tuesday when two leading nationalists announced their support for the idea.

Riyad Al Malki and Ali Abu Hilal, who oppose Arab-Israeli peace talks, told reporters there was a need for municipal elections.

"Conditions in the occupied territories require holding municipal elections and they should be apolitical, service-oriented and must be supervised by international observers," said Mr. Malki, a vocal opponent of peace talks.

"Since Israel acknowledged willingness to have elections, I think we should take advantage of that."

Mr. Malki and Abu Hilal support the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Democratic Front for the

Liberation of Palestine (DFLP) respectively.

Israel proposed the first municipal elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip since 1976 during the fifth round of peace talks in Washington last week.

Palestinian peace negotiators supported by mainstream Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) factions did not reject the proposal outright. But they want a municipal vote to be accompanied by overall national elections for a legislative assembly to administer self-rule in the occupied territories during a five-year interim period.

The Islamic fundamentalist movement Hamas, victor in a chamber of commerce election in the West Bank city of Hebron last year, also favours municipal elections. Hamas has strong backing among the 750,000 residents of the Gaza Strip.

Crimean deputies vote for independence from Ukraine

SIMFEROPOL, Ukraine (R) — The parliament of the Crimean peninsula passed an "act of independence" from Ukraine on Tuesday in a move likely to inflame relations between Kiev and Moscow.

Deputies at the Crimean parliament in the city of Simferopol stood and applauded loudly for two minutes after adopting a law on "state independence" by 118 votes to 28. The declaration was made subject to confirmation by referendum.

They also approved an appeal to Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk to hold talks on the issue. Mr. Kravchuk recently warned of possible bloodshed if the territory, with its Russian majority, were to put in question Ukraine's sovereignty here.

The peninsula, which juts into the Black Sea, has a population that is 60 per cent Russian. It was part of the Russian Federation until its transfer to Ukrainian rule in 1954 to mark three centuries of union between the two Slav neighbours.

Nationalist Russian politicians have argued that the transfer violated Russia's constitution, fuelling suspicions in Ukraine that Moscow could try to retrieve the territory. Some have even called for talks on the issue with Kiev but Mr. Kravchuk says the Crimea must remain Ukrainian.

The Ukrainian parliament, evidently hoping to forestall an independence referendum, passed a law last month granting Crimea unprecedented independence within Ukraine.

The Crimea is possibly the most explosive issue in relations between the two states that form the axis of the 11-nation Commonwealth of Independent States.

There was no immediate report of retaliation from Israeli troops and their allied South Lebanon Army and no word on casualties from the Katyusha firing.

The Israeli army overran and briefly occupied two Lebanese villages in February after Katyushas were fired into the zone and northern Israel. Normally, it responds with shellfire against villages.

Israel carved out the zone in 1985 to shield its northern settlements from cross-border guerrilla attacks.

The 1,100-square-kilometre strip stretches from the Mediterranean coast to the slopes of Mount Hermon in the east. The enclave is routinely patrolled by 1,200 Israeli troops and 3,000 SLA militiamen.

The SLA meanwhile denied an Amnesty International report saying detainees at a South Lebanon prison were being tortured.

"There is no truth whatsoever to the report that prisoners have been tortured and beaten," said General Antoine Lahd, head of the SLA militia which runs Kham.

Gen. Lahd also denied the presence of Israelis at Kham.

The fortress-like detention camp has since 1985 housed Arabs either caught or suspected of attacking Israeli troops.

(Continued on page 5)

Jordan to finance restoration of Dome of the Rock

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Tuesday announced its total commitment to cover the cost of restoration going on at the Dome of the Rock, noting that the commitment was in line with the Kingdom's policy to support the Palestinian people and to safeguard holy shrines.

A statement issued by the Council of Ministers said that the commitment was in line with Jordan's policy of upholding Arab and Islamic rights in the Holy City of Jerusalem. "The Holy City has always been on the minds of the Arab and Muslim people in view of its significance to the Arab and Muslim nations," the statement said.

It also recalled the sacrifices and endeavours by the leaders of the Great Arab Revolt: Al Hussein Ibn Ben Ali and his son, the late martyr Abdullah Ben Al Hussein, founder of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, both of whom exerted efforts towards defending the Holy City and its shrines.

The statement said that Jordan's commitment to shoulder the task of restoring and repairing the Dome of Rock came upon directives from His Majesty King Hussein.

Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Izzeddin Al Khatib Al Tamimi said that Jordan has been committed over the past years to care for the Al Aqsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock, providing for its restoration and repair.

(Continued on page 5)

Israeli soldiers shoot dead 2 Palestinians

OCUPPED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Israeli soldiers shot dead two Palestinians Tuesday in separate stabbing incidents, the army said.

In the first incident, a soldier shot dead a Palestinian prisoner who allegedly attacked a guard with a piece of asbestos from a roof at Ketziot military prison camp in the Negev Desert.

In the second, a soldier shot a Palestinian who stabbed and slightly wounded two soldiers at an army camp in the occupied Gaza Strip.

The man, named by Palestinians as Zakariya Mushatba, 44, of Gaza, later died in hospital.

Palestinians said that in ensuing demonstrations a second Palestinian was shot and wounded in both legs.

Palestinians named the Ketziot attacker as Ahmad Barakat, 25, from 'Ain Beit Elma refugee camp in the occupied West Bank.

Ketziot holds about 5,000 Palestinians arrested in the four-year-old revolt against Israel in the occupied territories.

Human rights groups say the prison violates the Fourth Geneva Convention because the inmates have been transferred from occupied territory into Israel.

Palestinians say conditions at Ketziot are the worst of any military prison. Prisoners suffer from extreme heat in summer and bitter cold in winter. They have been denied family visits and frequently protest at poor treatment and shortage of food and water.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, the army on Tuesday clamped curfews in refugee camps and villages following violent clashes Monday in which one Palestinian was killed and 11 were wounded.

(Continued on page 5)

Six Katyushas fired at Israel's 'security zone'

TYRE (Agencies) — Guerrillas fired six Katyusha rockets into Israel's self-proclaimed "security zone" in South Lebanon Tuesday, security sources said.

They said four rockets fell in the U.N.-policed village of Kawka and two near the Israeli hilltop position of Soujoud.

Soujoud is two kilometres east of Kawka, which is policed by Norwegian troops of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), which has been deployed as a peacekeeping force in the south since 1978.

The source of the fire was believed to be from guerrilla strongholds on the edge of the "security zone."

There was no immediate report of retaliation from Israeli troops and their allied South Lebanon Army and no word on casualties from the Katyusha firing.

The Israeli army overran and briefly occupied two Lebanese villages in February after Katyushas were fired into the zone and northern Israel. Normally, it responds with shellfire against villages.

Israel carved out the zone in 1985 to shield its northern settlements from cross-border guerrilla attacks.

The 1,100-square-kilometre strip stretches from the Mediterranean coast to the slopes of Mount Hermon in the east. The enclave is routinely patrolled by 1,200 Israeli troops and 3,000 SLA militiamen.

The SLA meanwhile denied an Amnesty International report saying detainees at a South Lebanon prison were being tortured.

"There is no truth whatsoever to the report that prisoners have been tortured and beaten," said General Antoine Lahd, head of the SLA militia which runs Kham.

Gen. Lahd also denied the presence of Israelis at Kham.

The fortress-like detention camp has since 1985 housed Arabs either caught or suspected of attacking Israeli troops.

(Continued on page 5)

Rafsanjani: Iran wants orderly Haj

NICOSIA (R) — President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said on Tuesday Iran wanted an orderly pilgrimage to Mecca in which political issues of the Muslim World are raised without disrupting the Haj or upsetting the Saudi government.

Calling for "cooperation, not division" in next month's annual pilgrimage, Mr. Rafsanjani put forth his moderate views in a Haj congress which opened at the shrine of the late supreme leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini south of Tehran.

More than 400 people, mostly Iranians, were killed in clashes with Saudi security forces during an Iranian "disavowal of infidels" demonstration in Mecca in 1987. Iran boycotted the next three pilgrimages in the ensuing crisis.

Mr. Rafsanjani said Muslims around the world — in Palestine, Algeria, Libya, Kashmir, Lebanon, Bosnia-Herzegovina and the newly independent Soviet republics — had problems which had to be tackled at the Haj.

"These are all problems which must be condemned, but in a way that we have no intention of causing a nuisance," Tehran Radio quoted him as saying.

"Muslims face problems and they should be studied with state-manship so that correct solutions can be found. The aim is cooperation in the Islamic World, not creating divisions."

Iran is expected to send about 110,000 pilgrims to Mecca this year — the same number as last year when Iranians performed the Haj for the first time since the

1987 riots.

Last year Iranians held their "disavowal of infidels" rally in a place cordoned off by Saudi police from the pilgrims of other countries.

Iran's ties with Saudi Arabia, broken in acrimony over the 1979 clashes, warmed after Tehran condemned Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Tehran and Riyadh resumed diplomatic relations in March 1991 after compromising on the number of Iranians to attend the Haj halfway between Iran's demand of 150,000 and the Saudi offer of 45,000 and arrangements for the Iranian demonstration.

Mr. Rafsanjani said it was essential to maintain the political aspect of the Haj — a key difference between Iran's Shiite Muslim rulers and the conservative Sunni Saudis who say the ritual is strictly a religious affair.

But the Iranian president added: "If we are to disavow the infidels... which we are, then measures should be taken that this would not adversely affect the big goals. We can definitely perform a desirable Haj if extremes are avoided."

Ayatollah Khomeini cursed Saudi King Fahd after the 1987 bloodshed which he described as an unpardonable desecration of Islam's holiest shrine in Mecca.

Mr. Rafsanjani, responding to radical critics of the decision to end the Haj boycott, said last year that Ayatollah Khomeini had said before his death in 1989 that he wanted Iranians to resume the pilgrimage.



Fighters of the Jamaat-e-Islami group guard the presidential palace in Kabul

Afghan 'liberators' cannot unite for peace

KABUL (AP) — Moneychanger Delawar Singh, asked why Kabul's once bustling money market was closed, replied "that's because we are at war."

Queried why the local currency has started to firm against the dollar, he said, "That's obvious, we are at peace."

Mr. Singh has good reason to be confused. A week after the declaration of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, this land-locked country teeters in a never-ending war that's neither war nor peace.

On Monday, as rival guerrilla factions clashed, leaving 30 civilians dead and 100 wounded, the interim government began handing out flour rations.

At one distribution point near the airport, hundreds of men,

women and children massed around a truck, grain coupons clutched in their hands.

Few seemed to take heed of the rockets falling less than one kilometre away.

"If Allah wills my death, then I will die but I have to feed my family," said Raiza Khail, a mother of four who brought two of her sons in a wheelbarrow to pick up wheat.

While opposing guerrilla groups who were supposed to be the country's liberators exchanged rocket and heavy machinegun fire, bus service was restored in the Afghan capital.

Abdul Rafar, a mechanic in his 40s, was waiting for an electric trolley when a firefight erupted nearby. For an hour, he cowered in a store destroyed last week by

missile fire.

"They are Islamic animals, not people," he said of the guerrilla groups.

One of the most marked indications of the uneasiness in the city is the convoy that accompanies Sibhanullah Mojaddidi, leader of the week-old government.

In addition to his numerous bodyguards perched atop gaily coloured Toyota pickup trucks, Mr. Mojaddidi is perhaps the only leader in the world followed by two tractor trailers carrying food.

One of Afghanistan's problems is that its supposed liberators cannot unite, separated as they are by ethnic rivalries and differences in their interpretation of Islam.

A renegade Muslim fun-

damentalist, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, made a play for power last week but was driven out of Kabul in fierce fighting last week. His forces have now dug in just south of Kabul and are firing rockets at the city.

Mr. Hekmatyar and his Hezbe-Islami fighters demand the establishment of an Islamic state that would be stricter than what is envisioned by the transitional government that took power last week after the fall of communist President Najibullah.

The fall of Mr. Najibullah had raised hopes that Afghanistan's long suffering could be ending, but the continued fighting among the rebel groups has left Kabul residents frightened and bewildered.

U.N. confirms Iraq destroyed almost 25,000 chemical weapons

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — U.N. weapons experts have reported that they had verified Iraq destroyed almost 25,000 chemical weapons on its own without U.N. supervision.

Iraq's Deputy Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz had disclosed the destruction of the chemical weapons and some Scud missiles in March when he came to the Security Council seeking relaxation of U.N. sanctions on Iraq.

A four-person team from four countries, led by Jim Knapp of Canada, visited 20 sites in Iraq from April 15-29 to verify the Iraqi report.

The experts from the U.N. special commission that is demolishing Iraq's weapons of mass destruction reported Monday that they confirmed the Iraqi claims "within acceptable margins of error."

Iraq said it had destroyed 24,470 chemical weapons as well as chemicals used to make them.

The U.N. experts checked Iraq's claims that it had blown up weapons and then buried or scattered the remains, or melted them down after cutting them into manageable pieces. Chemical agents were poured into the ground or into ponds, or were burned.

The team counted remnants of weapons at most sites. In the case of munitions that were melted down, they found that the weight of the metal ingots supported the Iraqi reports.

Iraq had declared that it possessed over 125,000 chemical weapons as well as about 70 Scud missiles, but denied having nuclear or biological weapons.

Army moves to help Yemen security plan

SANAA, Yemen (AP) — Crack army troops have been moved to buttress security and rewards posted in an effort to curb political violence and assassinations in Yemen.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh announced late Monday the allocation of 2 million riyals (about \$170,000) "as an encouraging two bonus" for information used to track "assassins and saboteurs."

Mr. Saleh also said security forces will immediately start strict implementation of a ban on carrying unlicensed arms.

after assassins tried to kill a cabinet minister, the latest and most prominent in a series of incidents since North Yemen and South Yemen merged two years ago.

Details were not divulged until the president spoke after a closed meeting Monday with defence, interior and security officials.

Sources said Tuesday that the plan includes transferring 5,000 elite army troops to the Interior Ministry to help security forces impose order. The sources said there may be other aspects yet undisclosed, such as stiffer punishment for culprits.

of enforcing control of arms in a mountainous tribal society where weapons are widespread. Yemeni national garb even allows for a dagger to be strung at the waist.

The diplomats also noted that allocating such a high amount for rewards in one of the poorest countries in the Arab World underscored the concern of the government.

On April 26, gunmen fled in a car after shooting Justice Minister Abdul Wasei Salam in the eye and leg as he left his office. He is being treated at a U.S. military hospital in Wiesbaden, Germany.

servative North and the formerly Marxist South, who joined in May 1990 to form the Republic of Yemen.

Even before that there was a tradition of political violence. Mr. Saleh himself survived an assassination attempt two months after taking power in North Yemen in 1978.

And in 1986, South Yemen President Ali Nasser Mohammad attempted to purge opponents in the Yemen Socialist Party, killing several after luring them to a meeting. That touched off internal conflict that left an estimated 10,000 dead.

Arms flowing into Mideast at alarming rate, experts warn

By Rosalind Mandine
USIA Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — Arms are flowing into the Middle East at an alarming rate and in alarming quantities, increasing the chances for another armed conflict in the region, two experts warned in a forum held Monday on Capitol Hill.

Ambassador James E. Akins, former U.S. ambassador to Saudi Arabia, and Major General (Ret.) Matti Peled, now head of the Arabic Literature Department of Tel Aviv University and a founder of the Israeli Council for Israeli-Palestinian Peace, discussed the arms race in the Middle East in a forum sponsored by Churches for Middle East Peace. The forum was moderated by Mike van Dusen, staff director of the House of Representatives' Foreign Affairs Europe and Middle East subcommittee.

In order to prevent the possibility of armed conflict, sup-

pliers must stop selling arms to the region and all countries in the Middle East must participate in a dialogue to control the flow of arms, the experts said.

The region is now "faced with an inundation of arms... never known before" in the Middle East, Gen. Peled underscored. Since the end of the recent war with Iraq, "estimated arms exports have doubled" to the Middle East, he said.

"If allowed to continue, sooner or later, we will be involved in an exchange of fire... Once acquired, these weapons are meant to be used in one way or another," he cautioned.

Suggesting ways to address the issue, Peled stressed that "in order to have meaningful dialogue on the limitation of arms in the Middle East, all countries in the region must participate."

Tackling the issue in the multilateral talks between

Israel and Arab parties will not work "because Israel and the Arabs have adversaries outside the circle of the Middle East conflict," such as Turkey and Iran, Gen. Peled said.

"The whole issue should be taken up at the United Nations," he said, adding that the international organization would be under "less pressure by arms producing firms" than any single arms-producing country.

Ambassador Akins had earlier stated that Western nations could impose an arms embargo on the Middle East, but that the pressure of arms manufacturers against such a message is too great.

Mr. Akins stated his opposition to a proposed U.S. sale of advanced aircraft to Saudi Arabia.

whether the proposed sale of aircraft will deter potential Iranian aggression.

Mr. Akins called the proposed sale a "waste of money." Gen. Peled stressed that arms suppliers "should decide to stop supplying even though there is great demand."

"It is absolutely necessary that arms producing countries find a way to stop selling arms or at least reduce the level of arms," he said. If suppliers do not find a way to do so conflict in the region will continue to escalate and "eventually there will be an explosion," Gen. Peled underscored.

In particular, the spread of weapons of mass destruction in the region "must be stopped as soon as possible," he said.

Reducing U.S. military support to Israel is another way of addressing the arms race, Gen. Peled suggested.

He said that Israel receives \$1.8 billion annual military support from the United States. This U.S. grant to Israel requires that Israel allocate two dollars for every one dollar allocated by the United States, he said. "The Israeli defence expenditure is therefore around \$5 to \$6 billion a year, he said.

This figure is "far too big, far too heavy, and far more than it really needs," Gen. Peled said of Israel's defence budget.

Reducing the U.S. military grant to Israel would then reduce Israel's own defence expenditures and "alleviate the burden on the Israeli economy," he said.

need for Arab countries to buy increasingly sophisticated weapons system would be reduced, he said.

Ambassador Akins stressed that a real reduction in the arms race in the Middle East will not occur until there is progress in the peace process and until the Gulf states are assured of protection against future aggressors, such as Iran.

Churches for Middle East Peace was founded in 1984 to communicate to Congress and the executive branch the perspectives and concerns reflected in policy statements of member-denominations and church agencies, according to the group's literature. Member organisations include American Baptist Churches; American Friends Service Committee; Episcopal Church; Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; National Council of Churches; Presbyterian Church; United Church of Christ and United Methodist Church.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Israeli police, Armenian clerics scuffle

TEL AVIV (AP) — Black-robed Armenian Orthodox priests scuffled with border police on Monday to block Israeli tax authorities from raiding an occupied Jerusalem convent to collect taxes from welfare tenants. The brawl occurred in St. James Convent, which is attached to the Armenian Basilica in Jerusalem's old, walled city. The police and tax collectors left after a four-hour standoff, witnesses said. It was the second incident in recent days that angered Jerusalem's small Christian community. On Saturday, an English-speaking tourist ran through the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Christianity's holiest shrine, smashing altar candles and tearing down a life-size silver crucifix. The man and his wife, who carried no identification and refused to give their names or nationalities, were arrested and are being held for questioning. About 16,000 Christians live in Jerusalem, including about 1,200 in the Armenian quarter of the old city. Armenian church spokesman George Hnithian said the church residence had been exempt from taxes under hundreds of years of Turkish, British and Jordanian rule of the region. He said it was a disgrace that Israel would "use border police to come into a convent."

Yemenis call for release of Kuwaiti POWs

SANAA (AP) — More than 1,000 Yemenis sent a petition Monday to the United Nations secretary-general urging him to personally intervene to secure the freedom of hundreds of Kuwaitis said to be detained in Iraq since the Gulf crisis. The move marked the first time that Yemenis have shown sympathy for Kuwait since their government supported Iraq in the Gulf war last year. It underscored government efforts to mend fences with Kuwait and its five partners in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). Saudi Arabia, the leading member of the GCC, halted \$1 billion in annual aid to Yemen in retaliation for its Gulf war stance. It also forced an estimated one million Yemenis working in the kingdom to return home. The petition, addressed to Boutros Ghali, the U.N. chief, was signed by 1,055 people. It was handed over to the U.N. office in Sanaa. It called the continued detention of the Kuwaitis "a clear violation of international charters and norms and a frank affront to all heavenly teachings."

Philippines lifts ban on workers going to Libya

MANILA (R) — The Philippine government has lifted a ban on Filipino workers going to Libya because reports showed that it was safe, labour officials said on Tuesday. Manila stopped Filipino workers from going to Libya last month fearing war might break out because of United Nations sanctions against Tripoli. The U.N.-imposed air, arms and diplomatic sanctions against Libya because of its refusal to surrender two men to stand trial on charges of blowing up a Pan Am airliner over Scotland in 1988. Manuel Inson, officer-in-charge of the Philippine overseas employment administration, said land and sea exit routes were available to Filipinos if tensions increased in Libya. About 15,000 Filipinos work in Libya.

Nicaragua expels Libyan diplomat

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (R) — Nicaragua has ordered one Libyan diplomat to leave the country and placed travel controls on the three remaining envoys from Tripoli in line with United Nations sanctions, Foreign Minister Ernesto Leal said on Monday. Mr. Leal told a news conference that Nicaragua had ordered the Libyans to reduce their mission by one diplomat and that the three remaining envoys should inform the ministry whenever they travel more than 30 kilometres outside Managua. Nicaragua will retain bilateral ties with Libya and had no plans of shutting a Libyan-run Arab culture centre in Managua, Mr. Leal said. Last month, Libya donated \$25,000 in aid to victims of a volcano explosion in northwestern Nicaragua. Libya was a major source of economic aid for Nicaragua's former Sandinista government.

Islamic countries urged to cooperate closer

ISTANBUL (AP) — Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel on Tuesday urged an organisation of Islamic countries to foster economic cooperation and a Turkish minister proposed widening the group of embrace the new Muslim republics of the former Soviet Union. In a written statement to a meeting of the follow-up body of the standing Committee for Economic and Commercial Cooperation of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference (COMCEC), Mr. Demirel said Turkey attached "great importance to economic cooperation among the member countries and values COMCEC meetings not only as a forum to foster economic cooperation but also as valuable occasions providing us with opportunities for gaining better knowledge of each other." The follow-up committee monitors the implementation of projects and formulates recommendations to strengthen economic cooperation among the member Islamic countries. Tansu Ciller, state minister for economic affairs, said the organisation should also include the newly independent Turkic republics of the former Soviet Union. "Turkey should form the gateway for trade and cultural ties" for these countries, she said. "We should meet the challenge of the world... of forming a larger economic community," as well, she added.

Cyprus police step up embassy security

NICOSIA (R) — Cyprus police said on Monday they had stepped up security at the Israeli and U.S. embassies. State television said police were acting on a tip-off a possible attack. "Tighter security measures have been taken at the Israeli and U.S. embassies since Friday. These measures will remain in force," a police spokesman said on state television. Security was also being stepped up at other embassies, he added. He did not elaborate. Three people were killed and 19 wounded in May 1988 in a bungled car bomb attack on the Israeli embassy. Cyprus television quoted a police source as saying any new attack could come either from a car rigged with explosives or with rockets. The radio said the tip had come from Interpol and the U.S. and Israeli secret services. On Sunday evening police stepped up security at Larnaca international airport following an anonymous telephone call to the control tower saying an attack was imminent. A Cyprus Airways flight to Tel Aviv was delayed by 45 minutes.

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME TWO
18:00 Le Monde est a vous
19:00 News in French
19:15 Interpique
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Spatz
21:30 The World of Andean
22:00 News in English
22:20 The other side of Paradise

PRAYER TIMES

04:22 Fajr
05:47 (Sunrise) Dhuhr
12:33 Dhuhr
16:12 'Asr
19:19 Maghreb
20:44 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Saffed, Tel. 810740
Assistance of God Church, Tel. 637075
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Terrence Church Tel. 623666
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 628543
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 771261
St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751
Armenian International Church Tel. 685326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 623824, 654932
Church of the Nazarene Tel. 675691

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be relatively cold and some clouds will appear at various altitudes. Winds will be northerly to moderate to fresh, causing dust in desert areas. In Amman, winds will be northerly fresh and sea calm.

Amman Min./Max. temp. 11/23
Aqaba 17/32
Jerash 10/26
Jordan Valley 15/29
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 22, Aqaba 33, Jerash 22; humidity readings: Amman 40 per cent, Aqaba 22 per cent.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY
AMMAN:
Dr. Mohammad Al Shawih 658878
Dr. Hisham Kanaan 790286
Dr. Zaid Zaghloul 638591
Dr. Wael Damsal 774800
Ferdous pharmacy 661912
Ferdous pharmacy 778336
Al Asma pharmacy 637055
Nairoukh pharmacy 623672
Al Salam pharmacy 636730
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

DRUGS:
Dr. Ali Al Omeri (—)
Al Sharas pharmacy (775825)
ZABQA:
Dr. Farah Aqrabawi (—)
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111
Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 75121
Rescue 630341
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police 192, 621111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 75121
Highway Police 843402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605880
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 661176
Complaints 897467
Amman Municipality 787111
Telephone Information 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
Jordan Television 771111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority ... 815615
Electric Power 636381
Company 08-53300
RJ Flight Information 08-53300
Queen Alia Int'l. Airport 08-53300

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 812813/32
Khafid Maternity, J. Ann. 644261/6
Akileh Maternity, J. Ann. 642441/2
Jabal Amman Maternity 642362
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital 845845
University Hospital 669131
Al-Musharraf Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/37
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664184/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 771101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775111/26
Army, Marja 891611/15
Queen Alia Hospital 602240/50
Amal Hospital 674155
ZABQA:
Zarga Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarga National Hospital (09)900260

Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
Al Hikmah Modern Hospital (09)990990
REHAB:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)23335
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)27275
The Al Nafes Hospital (02)27700
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) Information Department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
18:00 Damascus (RJ)
18:00 Jeddah (RJ)

18:30 Dhahran (RJ)
18:30 Larnaca (RJ)
18:55 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:50 Istanbul (RJ)
18:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:40 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
19:40 Paris, Geneva (RJ)
19:40 London, Brussels (RJ)
19:25 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
22:45 Aqaba (RJ)

18:30 Dhahran (RJ)
18:30 Larnaca (RJ)
18:55 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:50 Istanbul (RJ)
18:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:40 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
19:40 Paris, Geneva (RJ)
19:40 London, Brussels (RJ)
19:25 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
22:45 Aqaba (RJ)

18:30 Dhahran (RJ)
18:30 Larnaca (RJ)
18:55 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:50 Istanbul (RJ)
18:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:40 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
19:40 Paris, Geneva (RJ)
19:40 London, Brussels (RJ)
19:25 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
22:45 Aqaba (RJ)

18:30 Dhahran (RJ)
18:30 Larnaca (RJ)
18:55 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:50 Istanbul (RJ)
18:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:40 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
19:40 Paris, Geneva (RJ)
19:40 London, Brussels (RJ)
19:25 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
22:45 Aqaba (RJ)

18:30 Dhahran (RJ)
18:30 Larnaca (RJ)
18:55 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:50 Istanbul (RJ)
18:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:40 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
19:40 Paris, Geneva (RJ)
19:40 London, Brussels (RJ)
19:25 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
22:45 Aqaba (RJ)

18:30 Dhahran (RJ)
18:30 Larnaca (RJ)
18:55 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:50 Istanbul (RJ)
18:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:40 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
19:40 Paris, Geneva (RJ)
19:40 London, Brussels (RJ)
19:25 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
22:45 Aqaba (RJ)

18:30 Dhahran (RJ)
18:30 Larnaca (RJ)
18:55 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:50 Istanbul (RJ)
18:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:40 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
19:40 Paris, Geneva (RJ)
19:40 London, Brussels (RJ)
19:25 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
22:45 Aqaba (RJ)

18:30 Dhahran (RJ)
18:30 Larnaca (RJ)
18:55 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:50 Istanbul (RJ)
18:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:40 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
19:40 Paris, Geneva (RJ)
19:40 London, Brussels (RJ)
19:25 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
22:45 Aqaba (RJ)

18:30 Dhahran (RJ)
18:30 Larnaca (RJ)
18:55 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:50 Istanbul (RJ)
18:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:40 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
19:40 Paris, Geneva (RJ)
19:40 London, Brussels (RJ)
19:25 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
22:45 Aqaba (RJ)

18:30 Dhahran (RJ)
18:30 Larnaca (RJ)
18:55 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
17:50 Istanbul (RJ)
18:00 New York, Amsterdam (RJ)
19:40 Madrid, Rome (RJ)
19:40 Paris, Geneva (RJ)
19:40 London, Brussels (RJ)
19:25 Frankfurt, Vienna (RJ)
22:45 Aqaba (RJ)

Home News

JORDAN TIMES, WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 1992 3

Crown Prince, Hanbo Group chairman discuss cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan received at the Royal Court Tuesday Chairman of Hanbo Group of the Republic of Korea Tai Soo Chung.

Prince Hassan and Mr. Chung discussed scopes of cooperation between Jordan and Korea in industrial fields and in prospects for oil.

The meeting was attended by acting Energy and Mineral Resources Minister and Minister of Public Works Saad Hayel Surour.

Mr. Chung arrived in Amman Saturday on a five-day visit to Jordan for talks with officials and businessmen here on means of promoting economic and technical cooperation between Jordan and Hanbo Group.

During a visit he paid to Jordan in 1986, Mr. Chung donated an amount of \$1 million for the establishment of a vocational centre in North Shuneh.

Hanbo Group, which has executed major development projects in Jordan since 1975, was honoured by His Majesty King Hussein with the Award of the Order of King Hussein Ben Ali on May 3, 1983 in appreciation of its contribution to the development process in the Kingdom.

U.N. mission winds up visit after gathering information on violations in Arab territories

AMMAN (J.T.) — A three-member United Nations fact-finding mission winds up a five-day visit to Jordan today and leaves for Egypt on the third leg of its Middle Eastern tour to gather information about human rights violations in the occupied Arab territories.

The mission, comprising representatives from Sri Lanka, Yugoslavia and Senegal, met Tuesday with Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber to discuss the prevailing conditions in the region and heard Jordan's views with regard to the Palestine issue and the Middle East problem. The three-member mission has been to Syria where they met officials and gathered information about the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

At a meeting earlier with Adel Irshaid, director general for the Palestinian Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry, the U.N. mission members discussed Israeli practices in the occupied Arab lands and Mr. Irshaid noted that since the start of the Arab-Israeli peace negotiations, the

King, Tunisian envoy discuss trade relations

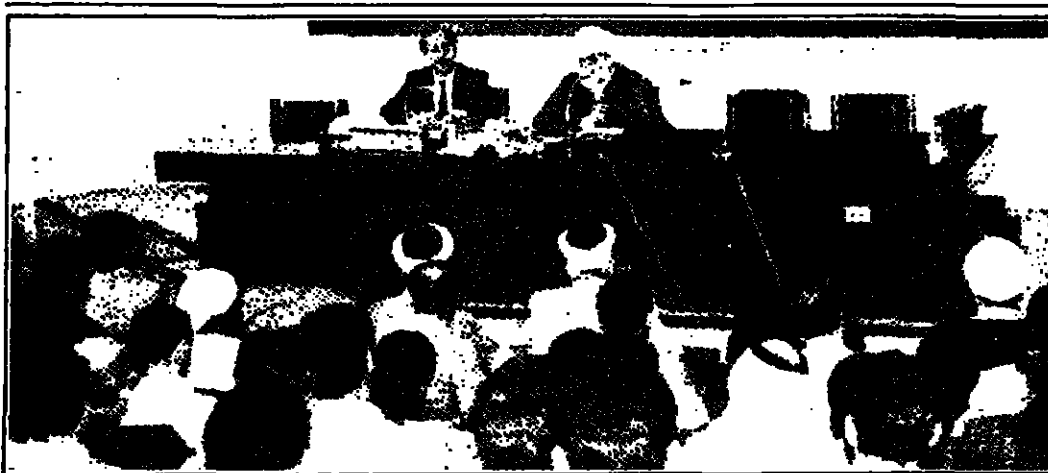
AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein received at the Royal Court Tuesday visiting Tunisian Minister of National Economy Sadek Al Rabeh who conveyed to the King greetings from the Tunisian president and exchanged views on Jordanian-Tunisian relations.

The two sides also reviewed the development of economic ties between Tunisia and Jordan in the presence of Minister of Industry and Trade Abdullah Ensour and the Tunisian ambassador to Jordan.

The Tunisian minister was received earlier by Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker who was briefed on the progress of Jordanian-Tunisian trade and economic talks over the past three days.

Both the Tunisian minister and Dr. Ensour told the prime minister that the talks covered agreements on fixing the volume of trade between Tunisia and Jordan at the rate of \$1 million to be exchanged through the annual trade fairs held in Amman and Tunis, as well as a sum of \$10 million in exchanged goods annually.

They also discussed the organisation of maritime transport operations through Aqaba and



Jordan and Iran held discussions Tuesday on increasing future cooperation in tourism, particularly in regards to religious and historic sites

Jordan, Iran to pursue tourism efforts

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and Iran Tuesday agreed to pursue efforts and discussions aimed at reaching a formula for future cooperation in tourism, with special focus on religious and historic sites in the two countries.

Agreement was reached in talks between Tourism Minister Yanal Hikmat and a visiting Iranian religious delegation led by Ayatollah Tashkiri.

Mr. Hikmat briefed the guests on Jordan's treasures of touristic and archaeological sites and the Ministry of Tourism's plans for promoting the tourism industry in the coming years. Mr. Hikmat also heard the Iranian views about means to promote Jordanian-Iranian cooperation in tourism with special attention to be given to Islamic sites found in the Kingdom.

They also discussed the question of Iranian Muslims performing pilgrimage to Mecca and passing through Jordan and the facilities offered to them; along the way.

Sheikh Tashkiri and his delegation visited Minister of Culture Mahmoud Al Samra to discuss cultural relations.

Dr. Samra said in a statement later that they agreed on renewing an Iranian-Jordanian cultural agreement signed in 1960 with the purpose of promoting the exchange of publications and visits by students, as well as the organisation of artistic and cultural exhibitions.

The visiting team presented a briefing to Dr. Samra about the cultural and artistic movement in Iran.

Also Tuesday, Foreign Minister Kamel Abu Jaber received Ayatollah Tashkiri and the accompanying delegation. Mr. Abu Jaber discussed with Mr. Tashkiri Jordanian-Iranian relations and ways of enhancing them.

Later Tuesday, Sheikh Tashkiri delivered a lecture at the University of Jordan attended by deans of faculties, teachers and students.

Earlier in the day, Sheikh Tashkiri held a meeting with the Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Abdul Latif Arabiyat to review Jordan's stand with regard to the Palestine question and both sides stressed the need for "Muslims worldwide to support the Palestinian cause and end their differences which can only benefit enemies of Islam," they said.

Piano recital to be held at RCC



Patrick Augustin Lama and Tania Tamari Nasir rehearse for a piano recital to be held Thursday at the Royal Cultural Centre.

By Jean-Claude Elias
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — An exceptional piano recital will be given by Patrick Augustin Lama at the Royal Cultural Centre (RCC) in Amman Thursday, May 7, at 8:00 p.m.

Performing with Mr. Lama is Tania Tamari Nasir, soprano, who will sing a poem in Arabic called "The River and Death" by Badr Shaker Al Sayyab, music by Patrick Lama.

Mr. Lama's music is unique in that it is a truly expressive modern classical form with clear and strong Arabic intonations and phrases, cleverly woven and embedded in its structure. This definition is as close as possible to reality,

considering that the composer dislikes any categorising and in fact writes music in a very free form, which he describes as neither Western nor Arabic. Some of his compositions, like "The River and Death," are atonal — not written in a specific key.

Listening to Patrick Lama and Tania Nasir, one is slowly taken to a world of deep emotions. Being indifferent to the such beautiful music is impossible. The wide scope of sounds, harmonies and feelings it channels can be perceived differently depending not only on the background of the listener, but also on his mood. One could "hear" in Mr. Lama's music Debussy or Messiaen, or even jazz pianist Herbie Hancock at moments, and still find it very

personal, original and new.

Mr. Lama's ideas are often expressed in short patterns, built on alternating waves of forte and piano. One of the most interesting qualities of his music is that it "talks" to even those who are not used to the sometimes difficult structures of modern music. It contains such an amount of genuine expression and emotions that it gets the listener's attention no matter what kind of music he or she is used to.

Patrick Lama, son of the celebrated Palestinian musician Augustin Lama was born in Jerusalem. He studied piano and composition in France with prestigious names like Henri Dutilleul and has been living there for many years. His life is dedicated to music and he has written many pieces for piano solos and will be performing Images d'Orient I, II and III and Horizons II, III and IV at the RCC concert.

Tania Tamari Nasir was also born in Jerusalem. She has been involved in classical singing, as soloist, with different ensembles in Palestine and Jordan. Although not a full-time musician, Mrs. Nasir is a true music lover and has recorded an album of "Songs from Palestine."

The climax of the recital could prove to be the interpretation of "The River and Death" with Patrick Lama on piano and Tania Nasir singing. It will probably be the first time that Arabic poetry will be sung accompanied by — or will accompany if one prefers — modern piano music of such quality and originality.

The piano recital has been organised by the Abdel Hameed Shoman Foundation in cooperation with the National Committee for the Support of the Intifada.

Conference on children endorses national strategy

By Maha Addasi

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The first National Conference on Children, organised by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), in cooperation with the Ministry of Planning, ended its two-day sessions Tuesday by endorsing a national strategy to cover child health, education, environment, culture and information.

A major part of the strategy emphasises the need for the joint cooperation among governmental, non-governmental and voluntary areas in child-related matters. Such a strategy would involve establishing a system of information on children in which regular studies and surveys would be included. Such studies to be made by people working in child and mother-related jobs can then be used in the planning and decision making phases of child-related matters.

Also included in the strategy is the need for continued training for those working in child care areas to improve their levels and to educate them in all facets that ensure a complete child upbringing.

It also emphasised that the strategy adopted at the outcome of the National Conference on Children is declared and sources of funding, both internal and external, be found.

The strategy includes a point that would spread a population policy that is clear and that would conform with health, society and the national economy.

In the area of health, the strategy includes the goal of reducing the infant mortality rate from 37 to 20 by the year 2000 and to bring down mortality of

children below five years of age from 47 to 25 deaths per thousand births.

As well as bringing down the number of respiratory and gastric diseases, another goal is to bring down the number of deaths of mothers during labour and to increase the number of women who adopt family planning from 35 per cent to 55 per cent, not to mention birth spacing.

An important point mentioned is the need to maintain the immunisation programme and to include vaccines in the national immunisation project.

In the field of education, the statement calls for improving the level of education for kindergarten children and ensuring 100 per cent enrollment for children between the ages of six and 16.

The statement mentions the need for eradicating illiteracy between the ages of 10 and 14 and ensuring follow-ups for those who went through an illiteracy eradication programme.

It also mentions the need for educational, sociological, psychological and vocational guidance in schools.

In the field of environment, the strategy aims to provide for the Jordanian children a safe atmosphere, pure drinking water and sanitary services in all regions by the year 2000.

To carry out this part of the strategy, the statement calls on the concerned authorities to enact laws and legislations to ensure a safe environment for the child at home, school and public places, to expand housing projects with suitable healthy environments, to apply laws regarding specifications on ventilations, lighting, water supply and public safety, to create convenient pub-

lic gardens with special units for children, ensure sufficient sports facilities for the young, control pollution caused by the spread of pesticides and fertilisers, take proper measures to reduce pollution caused by factories near residential areas, control health services at schools and issue guidelines on smoking, the use of chemicals and means of protecting foodstuffs at home.

In the areas of culture and information, the statement calls for increasing children's awareness in health, cultural, social, and environmental areas thereby ensuring a better life for them.

There is also an emphasis on providing children with an environment in which they can express themselves freely.

Also mentioned is the need for the establishment of libraries for children and children's theatres.

In the field of special children's needs, the strategy mentions the goal of reducing the number of disabilities in children to one half by the year 2000 by studying causes.

Another goal is to increase services to children suffering from cerebral palsy from 10 per cent to 40 per cent as well as the aim to increase the care and services for deaf children from 30 per cent to 70 per cent and the services for blind children below the age of 20 from 90 per cent to 97 per cent all by the year 2000.

The closing session of the conference was attended by Her Majesty Queen Noor, Chief Chamberlain Prince Raad Ben Zeid and Her Royal Highness Princess Alia Al Faisal, as well as the Minister of Planning Ziad Fariz and other ministers.

Labour minister emphasises need for health insurance for SSC beneficiaries

AMMAN (J.T.) — Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti Tuesday emphasised the need for speeding up measures undertaken by the Social Security Corporation (SSC) to apply a general health insurance scheme to benefit all citizens covered by the SSC law in Jordan.

"It is hoped that the SSC board will speed up work in this respect so that the 600,000 beneficiaries and their families will benefit from health services in Jordan as soon as possible in view of the high cost of medical treatment which workers now have to pay," said the minister at a meeting with the SSC board.

The SSC last October announced plans to apply the

health insurance scheme and expressed hope that the plan would come into force by 1992. There is need to provide health security to all citizens covered by the SSC law, the minister stressed.

Mr. Kabariti called for the SSC's Consultative Committee to hold a meeting on Sunday to crystallise a final formula for such plans. The committee was formed last year and entrusted with studying the most feasible health insurance scheme for the Jordanian people. The committee has drawn up a general draft for the plan which was discussed thoroughly in four of its meetings.

The draft defines the various sectors of people to be covered by the scheme, the creation of a special fund to finance medical

treatment and other factors related to the project.

SSC sources said that by the end of 1991, the SSC had JD 400 million invested in various economic and development projects in Jordan reaping in a revenue of at least JD 26 million annually.

The SSC's investments are in industry, agriculture, housing and banks which ensure profits that could be reinvested in other projects to bring in more revenues for the SSC and its beneficiaries.

The SSC, which was established in 1980, pays pension to retired workers beyond 65 years of age, lumpsum compensation and compensation for temporary loss of work due to occupational hazards.

Shippers urge U.N. team to end inspections

By Rana Sabbagh
Reuters

AMMAN — Jordanian shippers have urged multinational shipping inspectors enforcing U.N. sanctions on Iraq to ease and if possible end inspection of ships bound for Aqaba, Jordan's only Red Sea port.

Jordan's Shipping Agents Association had what they called a "business-like" first meeting on Monday with the multinational Marine Inspection Forces, who search ships bound for Aqaba to ensure compliance with the U.N. sanctions against Iraq.

"We explained to them that the 'tight inspection rules were wreaking havoc on our economy and we asked them to ease, and if they could, cancel these regulations," one shipper, who attended the

meeting, said Tuesday.

"They were very sympathetic to our views and demands and said they would onpass our remarks to a special U.N. sanctions committee in charge of Iraq to decide on the next steps because they were getting their orders from this committee."

Iraq depends heavily on Aqaba for its imports of basic foods, medicine and other humanitarian goods allowed in after the United Nations eased sanctions following the Gulf war to help the country's hard-pressed population.

His Majesty King Hussein has been campaigning hard to ease navy arches in the nearby Tiran Straits of all ships coming to and leaving the Kingdom since the United Nations imposed sanctions against Iraq after its 1990 invasion of Kuwait.

Jordan, fully committed to observing the sanctions against Iraq, once it's main trade partner, is trying hard to crack down on any cross-border smuggling.

Port officials said recently that allied war ships had become more experienced and eased inspection of Aqaba-bound vessels, possibly in recognition of Jordan's solid backing for Arab-Israeli peace talks launched in October.

The Shipping Agents' Association, which invited the allied inspectors to visit Jordan, said last month harassment of vessels heading to Aqaba was continuing.

They said the disruption in sea traffic was estimated to have cost the economy \$46 million since August 1990.

Universal Expo Centre displays various Jordanian products available for sale

By Shehab Makahleh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Locally made clothes and leather products produced by more than 80 Jordanian companies Tuesday went on display at the Universal Expo Centre near the University of Jordan, and the organisers announced that the various products on display can be sold directly to the public.

"The Amman Fourth Fashion Fair," which was inaugurated by Minister of Industry and Trade Abdullah Ensour, will remain open until May 14 and organisers expect it to attract vast number of visitors in view of the high-quality products displayed to the public.

"We intend to acquaint the public with Jordanian manufactured, high quality products," said the director of Expo Centre, Amjad Abdul Hadi. He said commodities on display include wear for women, men, children, artificial flowers, handicrafts, embroideries and woodworks.

"The Universal Expo Centre organises annually two fashion fairs, one in summer and the other in winter," he said.

According to Mr. Abdul Hadi, another big show is to take place on May 25, 1992 to display home appliances, food, chocolates, sweets, chemical detergents, shoes and other commodities.

"Despite the fact that our factory has been founded quite recently, it produces shoes of high quality for the local market. The industry faces some difficulties in obtaining raw materials," said a director of

Shoes Factory. One of the participants, who preferred to remain anonymous, noted that she participated in this expo "to prove women's ability to compete with men in every walk of life." She is displaying her homemade accessories and artificial flowers.

Another director of women's clothes said that most of the raw materials used in the manufactured products were 100 per cent Jordanian and quite recently Jordan's clothes were highly demanded in some Arab countries, such as Libya.

FOR RENT

Furnished apartment, second floor, three bedrooms, three bathrooms, guest room, sitting room, total area 270 square metres, deluxe furniture, ideal location in Abdoun. For information call 621907 or 601791

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Minister visits employment office

AMMAN (Petra) — Labour Minister Abdul Karim Al Kabariti Tuesday visited the Jordanian Employment Office in Amman and was familiarised with its role in finding jobs for the unemployed in various professions. Mr. Kabariti stressed the need to exert more efforts to curb unemployment among Jordanian workers.

Minister expresses appreciation

AMMAN — Minister of Tourism and Antiquities Yanal Hikmat met Tuesday in his office Louis Caviezel, general manager of the Plaza Hotel. Mr. Caviezel took up his post as general manager in 1982 and participated over the years successfully in promoting tourism to Jordan. Mr. Caviezel was a member of the Executive Board of the Touristic Consortium. Mr. Hikmat presented Mr. Caviezel with a miniature model of Petra on the occasion of the completion of his duties in Amman and in appreciation of his efforts and cooperation with the official and private tourism sectors in Jordan.

WHAT'S GOING ON

EXHIBITIONS

- ★ Exhibition of seven artists from the occupied territories — Tayseer Barakat, Sulaiman Mansour, Nabli Anani, Vera Tamari, Jawad Al Malki, Ya'qoub Al Kird and Khalil Rabeh — at Abdel Hameed Shoman Foundation Gallery — 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
- ★ Art exhibition by Iraqi artist Haseem Al Bestani at the Housing Bank Gallery.
- ★ Spring exhibition of Bani Hamida and the Jordan River designs at the Haj Hassan Estate, Abdoun Valley Road.
- ★ Photography exhibition, entitled "Around the World: People and Things," by Jacqueline Vanderveelde at the British Council.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artist Amer Al Obaidi at Alia Art Gallery.
- ★ Art exhibition of Iraqi artist Ali Al Mandalewi's works, inspired by poems of the great Arab poet Abdel Wahab Al Bayati, at the Spanish Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by Rida Hus Hus at the French Cultural Centre.
- ★ Art exhibition by Mohammad Al Ameri at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- ★ Exhibition of paintings by hearing and sight-impaired children at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

Chairman of the Board of Directors:
MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Director General:
MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:
GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:
Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4

Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Law and practise and what's in-between

THE NATIONAL conference on children that concluded here Tuesday offers an auspicious occasion to dig deeper into the welfare of our children especially with regard to dimensions that go unnoticed or are brushed aside easily. For starters, the country needs to review its existing laws on abortion, a subject that touches the essence of all rights, the right to life. Existing laws on this controversial subject make a blanket condemnation of abortions without the necessary degree of understanding — even sophistication — that is needed for the handling of such a complex issue. There is hardly any well-thought-of legislation on the right to abortion in cases of rape or incest or when the life of the mother is at risk. Furthermore, the way doctors pursue the application of existing laws on abortion has nothing to do with the way they practise their judgement in implementing it. In other words there is a considerable gap between law and practice in the country, something that does not augur well for the civic well-being of our society. But the biggest problem arising from abortions in Jordan stems from that fact that an increasing number of parents are resorting to totally unnecessary and illegal abortions if the sex of the fetus is not what they wanted. What exacerbates this contemporary development in putting science in the service of age old biases against the female sex is the growing trend to resort to genetic engineering, especially among the wealthy Jordanians to determine the sex of their children. In these regards, the country is woefully behind time and needs to embark on articulating sufficient legal safeguards against this arbitrary manipulation of the gender of children. Alongside any such legal provisions proscribing arbitrary abortions or unjustified manipulation of the sex of babies, there will always be need for more concerted efforts to augment the aims and objectives of such proposed laws by informational campaigns that aim also to change our archaic perspectives on female children.

It is perplexing therefore that neither UNICEF nor the Ministry of Planning, the organisers of the conference, saw fit to put on its agenda such profound issues and contented themselves instead with raising traditional subjects related to the rights of the child that often fail to stay abreast of developments in this important field. Having hosted this conference in the first place, Jordan is in a unique position to add to the already well known and appreciated dimensions related to children by highlighting new ominous trends in the world, including trafficking in children for organ transplants that UNICEF refuses to acknowledge till now as a growing problem. This is not to mention also the tragic problem of trafficking in children for prostitution purposes that has hardly earned any recognition by UNICEF which is presumably concerned with the overall interests and welfare of children. Much has to be done in these fields, and Jordan and UNICEF should be in the forefront of those who must do something about them.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL RA'I Arabic daily Tuesday commented on the King's address to the first national conference for children, opened in Amman Monday, reiterating his words about the need for care and protection to the children who are the men and women of the future. Despite the enormous challenges facing the country, and despite many odds, Jordan was successful in going a long way towards meeting the needs of its children and providing care and protection, said the paper. King Hussein has been instrumental, through his constant directives to the government regarding health care and education services needed for the young generation, in helping his countrymen to achieve a high level of care and to provide for the children, said the daily. It said that Jordan's successes in the field of caring for children have set a good example for other countries in the Third World with the infant mortality rates dropping from 151 to 37 per thousand over the past three decades. The paper said that the fact that 87 per cent of Jordan's children now receive health care, since the start of the decade, reflects the country's ongoing endeavours to meet the calls of the United Nations and the World Summit for Children about protection and survival of children. Caring for the young is a very essential and sensitive task for the nation, and it is a national responsibility for all citizens, said the paper. The paper added that Jordan's leadership realises the need to pave the way for a brighter future for its people and it is doing all in its power to help achieve this important goal.

A columnist in Sawt Al Shaab daily called on Jordanians and the Arabs at large to boycott American goods for as long as Washington remains hostile to the Arab Nation and imposes its embargo on Iraq. Ahmad Dhiban said that the previous calls for boycotting American products went unheeded; he was repeating a call for such a boycott as a reprisal against the United States which is allied to Israel, the common enemy of the Arab World. The writer said that some people had regrettably found justifications for continuing to deal with the American businesses, and it is said to see others following suit. As long as the starving of Iraqi people continues, Arabs have a national responsibility of fighting the Americans by all available means and through trade in particular, said the writer. The Americans are now imposing a blockade on Libya and tomorrow they might clamp sanctions on other Arab states, and therefore, there is an urgent need for the Arab countries to heed such warnings and take proper steps to stem America's aggression, the writer demanded. The Arabs will not suffer from boycotting American goods since the world is full of substitute products of better quality and they can turn to European, Japanese and Asian goods in order to punish the United States for its hostile stand, the writer repeated. He said that people who are deceived by the Americans and their social and economic system should take a lesson from the black rebellion in Los Angeles and other cities, which reflected the social injustice and the inequality that prevails in the American society and the abuse of human rights by the U.S. administration's practices.

Economic Forum

Libya and lessons of political economy

By Dr. Abdalla Malki

The sanctions imposed recently on Libya and earlier on Iraq raise some interesting questions for the students of political economy. International economics is used to subdue certain countries and extract political concessions.

The main, but not only, instrument of international economic is international trade. The volume of a country's external trade is the best measure of its economic dependency: the greater the former the greater the latter. In this particular context, exports deepen the dependence of a country on the rest of the world as much as imports do. This is most clear in the case of one-commodity export countries such as oil, where shutting the export tap leads to the throttling of the domestic economy. The case of imports is self-evident in this respect.

Now free international trade promotes specialisation and division of labour on the world level. It tends to maximise the volume of world exports which are identical with world imports. In purely economic terms, this is a blessing because it entails more efficient use of world economic resources: it enhances the productivity of the world economy, and thereby world welfare but not necessarily the distribution of welfare.

In political terms, however, free international trade tells a very different story simply because it exacerbates the economic dependency of the countries of the world, and ultimately aggravates their political vulnerability, to the benefit of great powers.

It is therefore no coincidence that these powers are the greatest zealots of international free trade because the whole system of free trade works ultimately in their favour. Such powers can not themselves be vulnerable to any parties or countries but others are vulnerable to them. Neither is it a coincidence that the greatest great power, namely the United States of America, is at the same time the greatest advocate, guardian and godfather of free trade which is being enforced by IMF worldwide, under the banner and pretext of the so-called economic adjustment programmes.

Under free trade, every trading country adopts policies aimed at producing goods (and services) in which it enjoys comparative and absolute advantages and endeavours to produce as much as is warranted not only by domestic uses but also by external demand (exports). It leaves to other countries to supply it with other goods (and services) in the production of which they have an advantage. One inevitable result is that this country, and, for that matter, any other country which is a party to free trade, gives top priority to export industries and export promotion in order to generate the foreign exchange necessary to pay for its imports. Actually, heavily export-oriented policies are a distinct characteristic feature of countries adopting free trade systems.

Import substitution is the policy which bolsters economic self-dependency. It leads to the diversification of domestic production capabilities and is mainly and firstly addressed to domestic demand. Whether by accident or design, but most probably by design, import substitution has been relegated to an inferior role in economic growth and adjustment models devised or sponsored by IMF. As the culture of the IMF sweeps across national borders and dominates minds and official institutions, tariff walls crumble down, domestic markets are flooded with foreign goods, national enterprises are calmly uprooted and export fever grips economic policy under various versions of theorisation.

However, import substitution and export policies are not and should not be mutually exclusive policies. It is only a question of which comes first and which comes second. In developed countries and particularly highly industrialised countries, it might be legitimate to accord top priority to export promotion. In developing countries aspiring at or caring for enhancing their economic self-dependency, import substitution must assume the first place and must not be foolishly sacrificed in favour of export promotion. The experience of Libya and Iraq provides a living example of the lesson of both history and political economy in this regard.

Centrist Democrats struggle with traditional party views on race

By Jill Lawrence
The Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS — Bill Clinton and the Democratic Leadership Council (DLC) have tried to break free of party stereotypes on everything from labour relations to foreign affairs. But their biggest challenge may be yet to come.

That challenge is to convince white voters that when racial tensions explode in the inner city, they needn't flee in apprehension to the Republican fold.

As news of rioting engulfed the council's annual meeting, leaders of the centrist group criticised the way both bleeding-heart Democrats and law-and-order Republicans have handled race issues and groped for a different approach. The process was vintage DLC: Find flaws in both camps, borrow

elements from both, add a pinch of innovation, and end up in the middle.

This council officers pitched their plan for beat-oriented community policing — law and order with a twist of compassion. And they talked of a national police training course — another government programme to be funded, true, but who could object to spending more on law and order? Mr. Clinton took the exercise to a whole new level in his Saturday speech — adding gun control, stiffer child support laws and national service to the mix — along with reassurances that he understands the race-rooted fears of the white middle-class.

In typical fashion, Mr. Clinton laid out the problem from both sides of the racial divide. "Whites too often think crime wears a black face," he said. "Blacks fear

that too often violence has a black face and no one cares."

His bottom line: "We should be afraid ... but we must face our fears and stop running from them."

NEWS ANALYSIS

It is a fine-tuned political message, but even so the timing of the Los Angeles violence could be awkward for the Democrats. Images of inner-city turmoil are not likely to help draw back voters they desperately need in November.

"This is not a level playing field for Bill Clinton," said analyst Stuart Rothenberg. "Anytime there is random violence, fires,

looting, the situation is just right for helping the Republicans because it scares the living daylights out of white suburbanites."

Even with Mr. Clinton's special appeals, Mr. Rothenberg said, a single election cycle may not be long enough to overcome 25 years of Democratic identification with minority causes that caused some whites to desert the party in the first place.

The DLC has been in the forefront of trying to abandon that identification, even to the point of alienating some blacks with a statement of support for equal opportunity but "not equal outcomes." The 3,000-member group has few black members.

Last weekend, however, Mr. Clinton and the council dwelled on unifying themes that carefully sidestepped any hint of the soft-on-crime, big-spender reputation

that has dogged their party.

They found common ground mostly in what Connecticut Sen. Joseph Lieberman called "the American people's concern for security, whether it be from enemies abroad or from criminals at home. And that means a belief in the rule of law."

Black Americans "want police protection," said Georgia Rep. John Lewis "a great deal of the crime that occurs is within the African-American community. They're the victims."

Ron Brown, the Democratic Party chairman, sounded the same themes and said the violence might make it easier for his party to point out shortcomings in Mr. Bush's urban policy, or lack of one. "Hopefully the American people will get focused on how bad the problem is," Mr. Brown said.

Democrats say it's possible that unless there's a major effort by the black community to keep them alive come election time, the fears and frustrations that gripped the nation last week will recede.

"The polls show that the race issue is not one that the majority of voters want to focus on in this election," pollster Daniel Yankelovich said during the conference. "It won't go away, but it won't be the dominant factor in the election. The country wants to focus on the economy."

But he acknowledged the Democrats could face trouble ahead if the Republicans try to make the election turn on which party can be better trusted to enforce law and order. That issue, he said with dry understatement, "has not been a Democratic strength."

Juror breaks 'omerta' after controversial trial

LA jury didn't believe race was factor in beating

By Sheryl Stolberg
Los Angeles Times

LOS ANGELES — In the end, the now-famous videotape — 81 seconds of footage that shocked the world with its grainy images of a prone, seemingly defenseless Rodney G. King being clubbed by Los Angeles Police officers — didn't matter.

Instead, it was what Mr. King did before the camera started rolling that prompted the jury to return verdicts of not guilty in the celebrated trial of Officers Laurence Powell, Theodore Briseno, Timothy Wind and their sergeant, Stacey Koon.

"I know the film was horrible, but there's a lot more to it than the film, and a lot more to it than the small pieces of film that were shown on TV," said one juror interviewed by the Los Angeles Times. "The film does not show all of the things that went on before."

The jury's verdict proved to be a resounding endorsement of the police officers' conduct. The juror — who spoke out despite a pact reached by the jurors that they would not talk to the media — said the panel made the only decision it could have, based on the evidence presented. There was no wavering, and no discussion of reasonable doubt.

The jury believed that if Mr. King had complied with orders from the police as they tried to arrest him, the beating would never have occurred.

"He refused to get out of the car," said the juror, who asked not to be named. "His two companions got out of the car and complied with all the orders and he just continued to fight. So the police department had no alternative. He was obviously a dangerous person, massive size and threatening actions ... Mr. King was controlling the whole show with his actions."

The prosecution's decision not to put Mr. King on the witness stand may have hurt its case, the juror said, because Mr. King was not able to explain his actions. "I wonder, could he have been a help to the case? Maybe he could have offered us some insight as to what his thinking was," he said.

The juror said that the panel found the officers' testimony credible. Jurors did not believe race was a factor in the beating — if it had been, the juror said, Mr. King's companions would have been beaten. Jurors also felt that the officers acted within the scope of police department regulations, and that the injuries to Mr. King's head occurred as he fell to the ground, not — as the prosecution asserted — from the beating he received.

As for the officers, the juror said, they were justifiably in fear as they attempted to arrest Mr. King. "They're policemen, they're



Filmmaker John Singleton, director of 'Boyz n the Hood', the movie about gang violence in Los Angeles, expresses his anger over the acquittal of four LA police officers in the Rodney King assault case.

not angels," the juror said. "They're out there to do a low down dirty job."

For the jurors, the deliberations were exhausting. The seven men and five women — none of them black — had been thrown together in their task after a

painstaking, month-long process of jury selection in which 248 other Ventura County residents were eliminated.

Turbulent week changes West African political map

By Gill Tudor
Reuters

ABIDJAN — In a single turbulent week West Africa has lost one president, gained another and elected a third — all in the name of Western-style democracy.

Sierra Leone's President Joseph Momoh has topped by a coup, Alpha Omar Konare won Mali's first free presidential election and President Dawda Jawara was returned to office in Gambia.

Another West African nation, Ghana, opted for multi-party politics and hopes rose of an end to Liberia's festering and bloody civil war.

Not a bad week, perhaps, reflecting the continent's rush to end decades of autocratic rule and embrace multi-party politics.

But many people fear Thursday's military coup in Sierra Leone, which sent Mr. Momoh scurrying to neighbouring Guinea, may do nothing more than install another authoritarian regime under the guise of speeding up democracy.

"We are going to practise democracy very soon ... (but) I

cannot say how soon is very soon," a member of the newly-formed National Provisional Ruling Council (NPRC), Colonel Sandy Jusu, told British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) radio.

Mr. Momoh, under pressure for political reform, had promised presidential elections by November but no dates had been set.

The new authorities have said their first priority is to end a simmering guerrilla war in the southeast of the impoverished country, where local dissidents and Liberian rebels invaded from Liberia in March 1991.

"They say they'll restore democracy but I'll believe it when I see it," one cautious Sierra Leonean said. "When the army gets into power in Africa they seldom want to let go."

Cynical observers note the "provisional" tag in the NPRC's name and draw a wry parallel with Ghana's provisional National Defence Council (PND), which has kept an 11-year grip on power.

Last week saw the beginning of the end of the PND's monopo-

ly, however, when Ghanaians approved a new constitution to end a ban on party politics and hold elections by year's end.

Optimists like to compare Sierra Leone with Mali, which chose Mr. Konare as its first freely elected president last Sunday.

The elections were the climax of a 13-month transition to multi-party rule in the huge, arid nation, where an army coup in March 1991 set the seal on a mass uprising against former leader Moussa Traore.

Diplomats see Mali's change to multi-party rule as one of Africa's most successful although some local critics fear the dominance of Mr. Konare's Adema Party, which was a two-thirds majority in parliament, may be unhealthy in a young democracy.

An older democracy, Gambia, voted in presidential and parliamentary polls on Wednesday which returned veteran President Sir Dawda Jawara with a 58.4 per cent vote but cut his party's showing from 31 to 25 seats in the 36-seat parliament.

The former British protectorate, a tiny sliver of land jutting

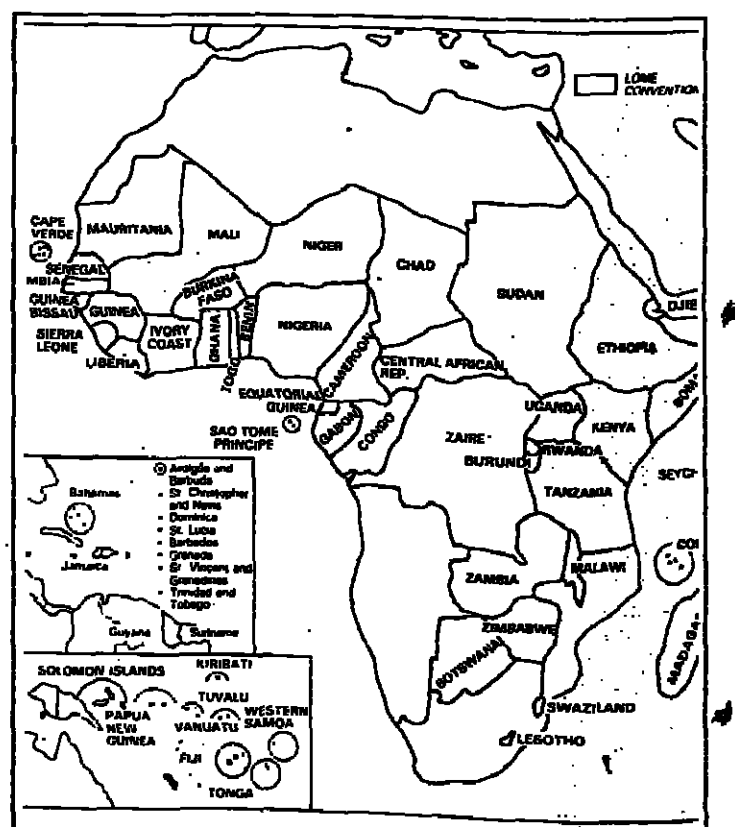
into Senegal, has been one of Africa's few functioning multi-party democracies since it gained independence in 1965.

In battered Liberia, hopes of an end to more than two years of civil war got a boost when rebel leader Charles Taylor appeared to drop objections to letting West African peacekeeping forces enter his territory as called for in peace accords.

The peacekeeping force, ECOMOG, started deploying in Mr. Taylor's zone on Thursday with a mandate to disarm his fighters and set up a buffer zone along the border with Sierra Leone to block attacks by the anti-Taylor militia, ULIMO.

A further bit of the elusive peace jigsaw seemed to fall into place when ULIMO (the United Liberation Movement of Liberia for Democracy) pledged for the first time to respect the peace accords and cooperate with ECOMOG.

Africa's multi-party train chugs on. On Sunday, the Central African state of Congo was voting in free elections closing 28 years of one-party rule.



Rittner, Gildemeister fall in Rome

ROME (AP) — Italy's Flora Perfetti scored the second upset of the Italian Open, eliminating 15th seeded Barbara Rittner of Germany in straight sets Tuesday.

Perfetti's 6-2, 6-2 victory was the second outburst of a seed in the \$550,000 clay court classic, and both have been the work of Italians.

In a baseline battle Perfetti was as consistent as Rittner was error-prone. The Italian lived up to her name and seemed nearly perfect.

Perfetti went into the match ranked 214th in the world and was considered a shot against the 28th ranked Rittner.

Italy has long awaited a

women's winner. On opening day Monday, Linda Ferrando gave the home crowd something to cheer about with a two-set victory over 11th seeded Laura Gildemeister of Peru.

In a second-round match Tuesday, 10th seeded Leila Meskhi of Georgia had little trouble against Japan's Maya Kidowaki, winning 6-2, 6-2.

Natalia Zvereva, who won her first round match here Monday, has known the ups and downs of the tennis tour.

As a teenager, Zvereva seemed certain to become a star of the women's game. Now, at 21, she's not so sure.

After a crushing defeat at the hands of Steffi Graf in the final of the French Open in 1988 and a bitter fight with Soviet tennis brass over her prize money, she's tumbled from sixth in the world to 30th.

"I'd like to get back there where I was before, but you can never be 100 per cent sure it will happen," said the 14th-seeded Zvereva after struggling Monday to a three-set victory over Ann Grosman of the United States in the opening round.

The \$550,000 clay court classic moves into high gear Tuesday with the top seeds going into action after a first-round bye.

Top-seeded Monica Seles, the world's No. 1-ranked player, drew Italy's Natalia Baudone in a night match on the Foro Italico Centre court.

Also posting first-round victories were ninth-seeded Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia, No. 10 Leila Meskhi of Georgia, No. 12 Radka Zrubakova of Czechoslovakia, No. 13 Brenda Schultz of the Netherlands and No. 16 Amanda Coetzer of South Africa.

Four unseeded Italians also made it into the second round, delighting the crowd, which has been looking for years for an Italian winner on the women's tour.

Monaco's 1st title hopes rest on Rui Barros

LISBON (R) — Monaco's hopes of winning a first European club trophy for France in Wednesday's Cup Winners' Cup final against Werder Bremen rest heavily on the fitness battle being waged by Rui Barros.

The diminutive Portuguese forward, who has a hairline fracture of a bone in his foot, is not just his team's most inspirational player, he is also a sure-fire guarantee of vociferous home support for Monaco in the 120,000-capacity Estadio Da Luz.

The former Juventus player, who enjoys a stature at home in Portugal proportionally much greater than his 1.59-metre frame, said Sunday he had a 50-50 chance of facing the Germans.

He said he was even prepared to have a painkilling injection. "If it's up to me, I will play," he told Reuters.

Werder, like Monaco playing in a European final for the first time, reported no injury doubts after their 2-2 away draw Friday with outgoing German champions Kaiserslautern.

New Zealand striker Wynton Rufer, who missed the match with a leg injury, should be fit to play, club officials said.

Monaco, who desperately want to end the jinx which has stopped France winning a European club cup, also have worries about midfielder Claude Puel, who hurt a thigh in a clash with a team mate in training Sunday.

Though the experienced Puel is not one of his team's stars, he is a vital cog in the Monaco machine, a workhorse who perfectly fits the bill as "a players' player."

Monaco trainer Arsene Wenger rested his entire first team for Friday's 1-1 home draw with

Montpellier in the last league match of the season as the club contest two finals in quick succession. They travel to Paris Sunday for the French Cup final against either Marseille or second division Bastia.

If Rui Barros is absent, Monaco will rely on Liberian striker George Weah finding his scoring boots again after a relatively quiet spell in recent months.

Werder trainer Otto Rehhagel has an experienced squad to call on though he will be without suspended goalkeeper Oliver Reck, who is replaced by Juergen Rollmann.

Nine of the players used in the semifinal with Brugge are touching 30 or more, including 35-year-old striker Klaus Allofs, who used to play in France at Marseille and Bordeaux, and powerful Norwegian defender

Rune Bratseth, who is 31.

There is a curious similarity running through Werder and Monaco's growing reputation as forces in European competition.

Both clubs had dismal records until the last five years when Werder emerged from obscurity to reach the semifinals of the UEFA Cup twice and the quarterfinals of the European Cup.

Monaco, after passing only three rounds in their first 10 seasons in Europe, reached the European Cup last night in 1989 and the Cup Winners' Cup semifinal the following year.

But their success in Europe does not appear to have impressed their respective national trainers. Only one of the players in Lisbon is likely to make it to next month's European Championship in Sweden — Monaco's young stopper Emmanuel Petit.

Ukraine wants CIS states to compete for World Cup spot

MOSCOW (R) — Ukraine wants the CIS soccer team to disband after next month's European Championship finals and its 1994 World Cup spot to be contested by the former Soviet republics, the ITAR-TASS News Agency said Monday.

It said the Ukrainian Federation had written to its CIS counterpart and the world governing body FIFA proposing that after the European finals in Sweden "the CIS football team ceases to exist."

Member states should then compete for the vacant European group 5 place in the qualifying series for the next World Cup in the United States.

Ukraine was for many years a pillar of the Soviet national team, runners-up in the 1988 European Championship, and Dynamo Kiev alone provided nine members of its 22-strong squad at the 1990 World Cup in Italy.

It has said it will release its players for the last time to represent the CIS in Sweden in June. The team was in the middle of European Championship qualifying rounds at the time of the break-up of the Soviet Union.

"Ukraine launched its own national championship this spring and made its international debut in a friendly against Hungary last week, losing 3-1.

Auriol still leads in Corsica

AJACCIO, France (R) — Frenchman Didier Auriol was closer to a fourth victory in the Tour Of Corsica Rally after a brilliant display of unbridled driving on the island's narrow mountain roads.

At the end of the second day, the Lancia driver led compatriot Francois Delecour by one minute and two seconds.

Delecour, driving a Ford,

started the day only two seconds behind the leader, but he could not match the pace set by Auriol, who won eight of Monday's nine stages.

It was a feast for French drivers on home ground with unheralded Philippe Bugalski taking third place ahead of Lancia team mate Andrea Agnini of Italy, who prevented Auriol from a sweep of the 13 special stages held so far.

Romania short of 4 top players against Faroes

BUCHAREST (R) — Romania will be short of three top defenders and Italy-based striker Florin Raducioiu for their World Cup qualifier against the Faroe Islands Wednesday.

Defender Emil Sandoi of Universitatea Craiova and Verona's Raducioiu have pulled out of coach Cornel Dinu's squad because of injury.

Red Star Belgrade libero Miodrag Belodedici and defender

Michael Klein of German second division Bayer Uerdingen have also withdrawn from the European Group 4 tie.

"We have big problems in defence, because libero Miodrag Belodedici also cried off at the last moment. I don't know the reasons behind this unexpected decision," Dinu said.

Bayer, making a final push for promotion, would not release Klein.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMAR HIRSH
©1991 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 62 ♠ AK 542 ♠ AKQJ6
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
A.—We estimate those who make a jump shift of two hearts, but we are not sure we could handle the subsequent auction. Our vote goes to the admitted underbid of three diamonds. Although that's not forcing, it seldom gets passed. And if it does, there's a fair chance that there's no game in the hand.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ A1063 ♠ 78 ♠ 5 ♠ AKQ8742
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
A.—Had we been 6-4 in the black suits we would have had no problem. Here, however, we have such a splendid seven-card suit that we can't bring ourselves to bid that information. We would jump to three clubs.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠ AKJ6 ♠ 78 ♠ 5 ♠ AKQ8742
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
What do you bid now?
A.—Notice the difference in suit quality between this hand and the previous one. Rather than rebid two clubs and suppress the excellent four-card major, we would opt for one spade on this holding.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 83 ♠ J9852 ♠ 8732 ♠ 42
Partner opens the bidding with one trump. What action do you take?
A.—Your hand is worthless to partner at no trump, but at hearts it should generate a couple of tricks. Bid two hearts, or transfer into that contract if those are your methods.

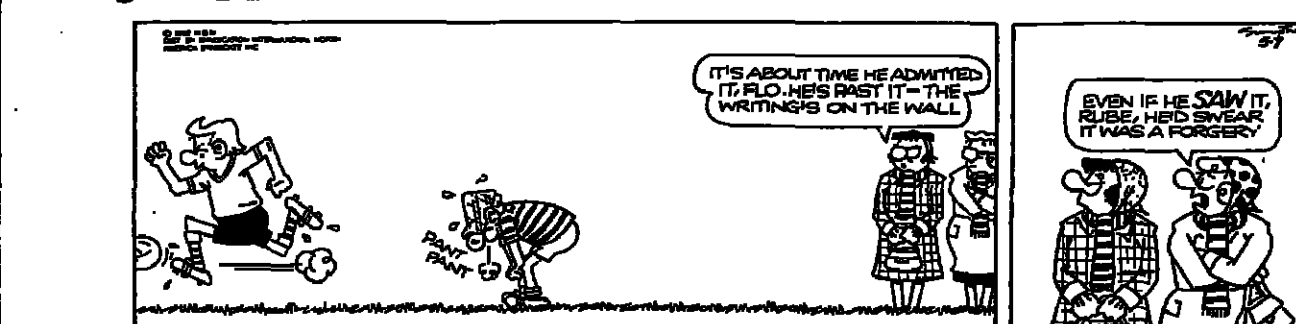
Q.5—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ 65 ♠ J843 ♠ J78 ♠ 10952
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 NT Dbl Pass
What action do you take?
A.—Don't even think of rescuing partner from his double of one no trump when you have a flat hand. If you run to two of a suit and get doubled, trumps will have to be drawn and you may be reduced to trying for eight tricks at no trump when seven would have given you a plus score. Pass, and hope for the best.

Q.6—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠ J92 ♠ AJS ♠ 4 ♠ 1097652
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass 1 ♠ 4 ♠ 5 ♠
What action do you take?
A.—You are certainly going to compete with five spades, but it costs you nothing to bid five hearts en route—this cannot be a natural bid because you passed originally, so you can't have the sort of suit you would be willing to play at the five-level. Knowledge of your heart strength and spade support, however, will leave partner well placed to cope with further opposition action.

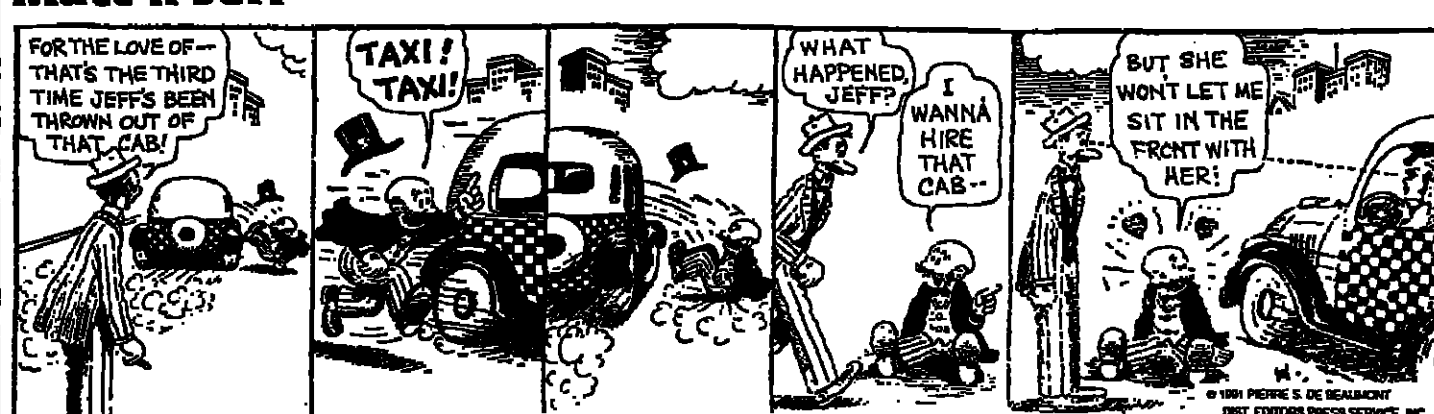
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n' Jeff



SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

Christie to captain U.K. team

LONDON (R) — Olympic silver medalist Linford Christie will captain Britain's men's athletics team at this year's Barcelona games, the British Athletic Federation (BAF) said Monday.

Christie, 32, has captained the men's team since 1989 and is once again expected to head the European challenge to American supremacy in the 100 metres. He was awarded a silver medal behind American Carl Lewis in Seoul four years ago after the disqualification of Canadian winner Ben Johnson for doping.

Christie became caught up in controversy himself when traces of pseudo-ephedrine were found in a urine sample. The International Olympic Committee's (IOC) Medical Commission accepted his explanation that he had unwittingly taken the substance in a health tonic.

Hurdler Sally Gunnell, who has won two Commonwealth titles and took a 400 metres silver at last year's World Championships, was named women's team captain.

Montoya still leads in Tour of Spain

PLA DE BERET, Spain (AP) — Spanish rider Jon Unzuaga won the eighth stage of the Tour Of Spain, a rugged 240-kilometre stretch from the Mediterranean coast to the Pyrenees mountains near the French border. The overall leadership remained in the hands of Spaniard Jesus Montoya, although defending Tour Of Spain champion Melchor Mauri dropped from second overall to 11th as the hilly course took its toll.

Unzuaga out-sprinted Colombian Martin Farfan with both crossing the line in 7 hours, 19 minutes, 42 seconds. Spaniard Pedro Delgado, a favourite to win a record-third Tour Of Spain, finished in a pack of 17 riders 11 seconds behind the winner. The grueling leg, which included three first-category climbs the second most difficult in cycling, left many of the pre-race favourites in a strong position going into the difficult ninth stage.

Chinese sets Asian record in long jump

SHIZUOKA, Japan (AP) — Chinese long jumper Chen Zuirong broke his own Asian record with a leap of 8.36 metres Tuesday in the Shizuoka International athletics meet. The 29-year-old Chen jumped 8.39 metres on his second attempt, but that jump did not qualify for a record because of a tail wind higher than the legal limit of 2.4 metres a second.

He set the record on his third try, breaking the Asian mark of 8.26 metres that he had set in Peking last June 3. The world record is 8.95 metres, set by Mike Powell of the United States last August in Tokyo. Masaki Morinaga of Japan was second, beating Japan's national record by 15 centimetres with a leap of 8.25 metres. Nai Huei-Fang of Taiwan was third at 7.89 metres.

McEnroe downs Mancini in Hamburg

HAMBURG (AP) — John McEnroe opened his bid in the German Open with a 6-1, 6-2 upset of Alberto Mancini of Argentina 6-1, 6-2. Mancini is 12th in world tennis rankings.

Thirty-year-old McEnroe, who won the German Open in 1985, advanced to a meeting with top seeded Boris Becker. Carl Uwe Steeb, one of Germany's best players, defeated former French Open champion Andrei Gornes of Ecuador 7-5, 5-7, 6-1. Jordi Arrese of Spain defeated countryman German Lopez 6-3, 6-3 and Renszo Furlan of Italy beat Cedric Pioline of France 6-2, 6-3. Guillermo Perez-Roldan of Argentina beat Michiel Schapers of the Netherlands 3-6, 7-5, 6-2 and Stefano Pescosolido of Italy defeated Goran Prpic of Croatia 3-6, 6-2, 6-4. Andrei Chesnokov and Andrei Cherkasov of the Commonwealth of Independent States were late arriving because of Germany's striking airport personnel.

Edberg to defend Queens Club title

LONDON (AP) — Defending champion Stefan Edberg heads the field in the \$525,000 Queens Club grass court tournament June 8-14, organizers said Monday. Among those challenging the Swede are Ivan Lendl, former U.S. Open champion Pete Sampras and French star Guy Forget.

Dallas chosen as World Cup IBC centre

DALLAS (R) — World Cup USA 1994 has announced that Dallas will be the site of the International Broadcast Centre (IBC) for the quadrennial soccer championship. The IBC, situated at the 277-acre Fair Park, is the coordinating facility from which all outgoing television signals from World Cup '94 will be produced, said Scott Parks Letellier, managing director and chief operating officer of World Cup USA.

The centre is expected to draw some 3,500 broadcasters and technicians the Texas City, one of nine venues selected to host 1994 World Cup games, for three to four months during the summer of 1994. The European Broadcasting Union will act as host broadcaster for the 1994 World Cup and assume responsibility for the television coverage of all events. Other Metropolitan areas hosting games in the 52-game tournament include Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Orlando, San Francisco and Washington, D.C.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY MAY, 6, 1992

By Thomas S. Pearson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

This isn't a date for taking chances as others you will find, will be too wrapped-up in their own projects to do much that will prove over the long term to be of assistance to others.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) You now have the chance to see and meet with acquaintances who are very deep into all kinds of interesting, progressive activities and get their assistance for your projects.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Friends to or from a distance are the ones you would be wise to accompany to get the aid you desire where your own intimate aims are concerned.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) New ideas sudden come forth that can show you the way to more success as well as a growth of your consciousness in highly interesting directions.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Think about what your close attachment desires at most and then add your own ideas to ideas so you greatly please that individual.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Getting a new attitude towards an associate who is bizarre and unpredictable can be the best method by which to get that person to back your position.

VERGO: (August 22 to September 22) If you put more concentration into your work and make it more in

line with current conditions, more money will flow to you from regular sources.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) You now need to be very up to date in fashion, appearance at entertainments so be on the lookout for ways to be more modern in every way.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Now you would be wise to take a good look over all home conditions with your family and decide what changes will make your residence more operative, comfortable.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) A great day to do those things in the outside world that brings you the greatest amount of pleasure as well as productivity that you desire.

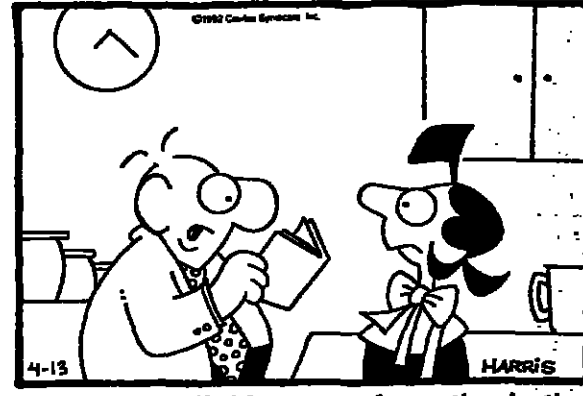
CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Your day to get together about practical and mundane matters with members of your own household and consider ways to increase regular income.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Your mind is filled with all kinds of brilliant ideas that can easily be put into motion if you use the most progressive and unusual methods to do so.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Whatever hunches you have concerning your property and possessions and especially if they are of a progressive nature, can bring you extra income.

THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



Financial Markets
in co-operation with
Cairo Amman Bank

U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close Date 4/5/1992	Singapore Close Date 5/5/1992
Sterling Pound	1.7785	1.7775
Deutsche Mark	1.6670	1.6685
Swiss Franc	1.5118	1.5135
French Franc	5.5525	5.5375
Japanese Yen	133.20	133.35
European Currency Unit	1.2665	1.2690

* 100 Per \$10

** European Opening @ 9:00 a.m. GMT

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTH	6 MTH	12 MTH
U.S. Dollar	3.87	3.93	4.12	4.56
Sterling Pound	10.18	10.05	10.00	10.12
Deutsche Mark	9.75	9.75	9.68	9.62
Swiss Franc	8.81	8.81	8.56	8.31
French Franc	9.93	9.93	9.56	9.31
Japanese Yen	4.62	4.65	4.59	4.59
European Currency Unit	10.09	10.12	10.09	10.09

Interbank bid rates for accounts exceeding U.S. \$100,000 or equivalent.

Metals	USD/Oz	JD/Gm	Metals	USD/Oz	JD/Gm
Gold	336.65	6.65	Silver	4.01	0.90

* 100 Per 100

Currency	Bid	Offer
U.S. Dollar	0.6870	-0.6890
Sterling Pound	1.2202	1.2263
Deutsche Mark	0.4164	0.4185
Swiss Franc	0.4533	0.4556
French Franc	0.1225	0.1281
Japanese Yen	0.5145	0.5171
Dutch Guilder	0.3700	0.3719
Swedish Krona	0.1155	0.1161
Italian Lira	0.0554	0.0557
Belgian Franc	0.02031	0.02041

Currency	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7580	1.8180
Lebanese Lira	0.04000	0.04760
Saudi Riyal	0.1829	0.1839
Kuwaiti Dinar	0.1864	-0.1874
Qatari Riyal	0.2000	0.2150
Egyptian Pound	1.7580	1.7680
Omani Riyal	0.1864	0.1874
UAE Dirham	0.3540	0.3740
Greek Drachma	1.8750	1.8950
Cypriot Pound	1.8750	1.8950

CAB Indices for Amman Financial Market

Index	3/5/1992 Close	4/5/1992 Close
All-Share	148.67	147.64
Banking Sector	108.38	108.16
Insurance Sector	149.56	150.11
Industry Sector	205.83	205.09
Services Sector	128.06	130.28

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One Sterling	1.7810/20	U.S. dollar
One U.S. dollar	1.1915/20	Canadian dollar
	1.6410/20	Deutsche mark
	1.8460/70	Dutch guilder
	1.5045/55	Swiss franc
	33.78/82	Belgian franc
	5.5300/50	French franc
	1233/1234	Italian lire
	132.80/90	Japanese yen
	5.9250/300	Swedish crown
	6.4150/200	Norwegian crown
	6.3560/610	Danish crown
One ounce of gold	336.35	U.S. dollars

Lebanese in Sidon and Tyre put on fire
liras, dollars and tyres

TYRE, Lebanon (R) — Hundreds of rioters enraged by the Lebanese lira's collapse burned down the finance minister's home Tuesday and closed stores and roads in South Lebanon, witnesses said.

The protesters beat up four policemen, broke windows of exchange shops and shattered banks in Tyre and the southern city of Sidon, 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

The riots were sparked by the lira sinking to an all-time low of around 2,000 to the dollar on the unofficial market on Monday. The central bank suspended its trading last Thursday.

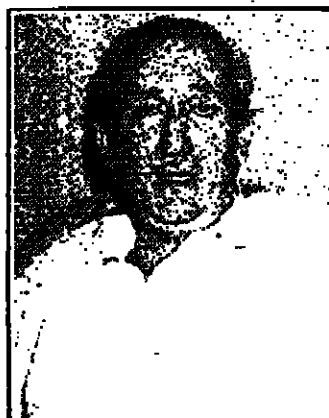
Prime Minister Omar Karami left for talks in Damascus on the crisis, heightening speculation he would resign after the worst civil disturbances over economic problems in five years.

Diplomats, however, said Mr. Karami might hang on or head a new cabinet because there were few candidates to replace him while Lebanon struggled with the aftermath of 15 years of civil war.

Calling for the fall of Mr. Karami's Syrian-backed government, about 500 protesters encircled Finance Minister Ali Al Khalil's home after marching through Tyre, 76 kilometres south of Beirut.

After injuring two of Mr. Khalil's staff in fist fights, they forced their way in, threw furniture from windows and set it ablaze, then burned down the house, witnesses said.

Mr. Khalil was in Beirut during the attack. About 50 soldiers backed by four armoured troops



Omar Karami

carriers later repulsed the crowd while two army tanks drove around town to deter more attacks.

"My salary is 6,000 liras (\$3.20) a day. How can I live?" said Abbas Safa, a farmworker from Tyre who brandished a stick he said he used to smash windows of several currency exchange shops.

The government blames the fall of the lira, worth 2.5 to the dollar in 1975, on a foreign conspiracy to pressure Beirut to change policies on Arab-Israeli peace talks and distance itself from Damascus.

Foreign exchange dealers in Beirut said the lira strengthened slightly Tuesday, trading at about 1,825 to the dollar.

Western diplomats say the government is largely to blame for the crisis due to widespread official corruption and for pinning its hopes on post-war foreign aid which failed to materialise.

Demonstrators burned dollar and lira banknotes to show disgust with the plunge of the Lebanese currency, which has lost more than 50 per cent of its value against the U.S. currency since February.

Lebanon's main trade union confederation after an emergency meeting called for a four-day general strike from Wednesday.

"A strike won't achieve anything," said exchange dealer Hamid Shadmani, a Syrian. "A poor man will starve unless he works. Nothing will change unless the state does something."

China to beef up jobless insurance fund

BEIJING (R) — China has decided to double its funds in a national unemployment insurance programme, a safety net as the government works to break the "iron rice bowl" of lifetime employment, the official China Daily has said.

But the newspaper quoted economists as saying that even doubling the amount would not be enough to provide a soft landing for China's jobless.

"The country is currently under a great deal of unemployment pressure," the newspaper said.

The labour ministry said that during the 1991-95 period, 78 million peasants and 36 million urban workers would be jobless. Redundancies, "virtually unheard of under the Marxist rule of the late chairman Mao Tse-tung,

are part of China's sweeping economic reforms.

China's unemployment insurance fund would increase from 480 million yuan (\$87 million) to one billion yuan (\$182 million).

The fund covers workers in state enterprises, some 30 per cent of which made losses last year.

The economists estimated the actual need for 1992 was 2.55 billion yuan (\$463.63 million), but gave no jobless estimate for this year.

China's state enterprises, bogged down with inefficient, surplus workers, pose a huge drain on government coffers.

Moves to introduce redundancies have met great resistance, and the unemployment insurance scheme is designed to soften the blow of slashed payrolls.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

TOKYO — The stock market was closed for public holidays Monday and Tuesday. It will reopen Wednesday.

SYDNEY — Australian shares ended slightly higher after government comments on interest rates took the steam out of a rally. The All Ordinaries Index was 1.2 higher at 1665.5.

HONG KONG — Share prices ended higher with the Hang Seng Index at another record close but profit-taking pushed prices down. The Hang Seng closed up 17.42 points at 5,631.21.

SINGAPORE — Singapore shares were lower as profit-taking ended a brief advance. The Straits Times Industrial Index finished 10.32 points lower at 1,488.65.

FRANKFURT — Shares made their first closing gains in almost two weeks but hopes of a settlement in the public sector pay dispute were offset by fears of strikes in industry. The 30-share Dax Index ended 4.35 points up at 1,732.64.

LONDON — Shares closed firmer but well below session peaks as profit-taking checked the market's early assault on all-time highs. The FTSE 100 Index closed 2.4 higher at 2,662.2.

PARIS — Share prices, spurred by Wall Street's gains Monday and a cut in British interest rates, ended higher but below their morning peaks. The CAC-40 Index closed up 5.31 at 2,046.93.

NEW YORK — Wall Street stocks remained modestly lower in midday trading amid a correction of Monday's sharp rally. The dow was off 31 at 3,367 at midsession.

No plans now to borrow more money

Political rifts delay Kuwait endorsement of bad debt plan

KUWAIT (R) — The Kuwaiti government has failed to endorse a plan to buy about \$17 billion of bad debts from commercial banks more than a month after the National Council approved the scheme.

Bankers and diplomats believe the delay is caused by political rifts over the plan, which critics say will lead to a bail-out of influential debtors.

"The cabinet was supposed to endorse it more than three weeks ago... at the last minute they froze everything because of internal struggles over the issue," said one senior banker.

Diplomats say the emir, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, has intervened in the hope of finding a compromise.

They said the government might introduce changes to the plan — originally drafted by the cabinet in December — and send it back to the council, which approved the scheme on March 31.

"You have two different points of view among influential official people. It is very sensitive politically," one diplomat said.

The bankers said one side in the conflict, including some of the debtors, advocated buying the debts while others believed it would prove costly for the country which is struggling to overcome the economic impacts of the Gulf war.

"Kuwait's debts, the outstanding ones, the foreign ones and the bad ones of the commercial banks amount to nine billion dinars (\$31 billion)," one banker said. "People are asking where is the government going to get all that money from," he added.

The bankers said another reason for the delay in endorsing the plan was differences over whether debtors should declare their financial positions and be charged interest.

The plan says debtors had to reveal details of their finances and pay up to five per cent interest after a three-year grace period.

The National Council has no legislative power but critics say the government sought its approval for political reasons in the run up to Kuwait's general elections in October.

The government insists the plan — which would let banks dispose of debts on 1991 balance sheets and start afresh — has been drawn up for economic reasons only.

The scheme will allow the government to buy bank debts at full value by issuing bonds with a maximum 20-year maturity.

Meanwhile, the head of the Kuwaiti Investment Authority (KIA) has said Kuwait has no immediate plans to borrow more money on the international market but is trying to meet its cash needs through export credit agreements.

"How much the government is going to spend, I don't know. I cannot say how much we need to liquidate or how much we need to borrow," KIA Chairman Abdullah Al Qabandi told reporters.

"It is now up to us to decide when we go to the market," he said, adding that the government was not thinking about borrowing now.

Bankers and investment experts told Reuters last month that Kuwait was considering borrowing more because a loan of \$5.5 billion from commercial banks had not been enough to finance post-Gulf war costs.

Mr. Qabandi said Kuwait needed cash but had options other than selling overseas assets or borrowing more on the world market.

"The method of raising cash is not only through selling assets. There are so many options and we are doing it, but I cannot elaborate on that," he said.

"We are not using assets as the only source for our cash requirements. We have \$5.5 billion (in) credit agencies which we are trying to utilise. We will concentrate on export credits," he stressed.

Kuwait signed \$5.5 billion in export credit guarantees for reconstruction with the United States, Canada, Japan, Britain and other European countries late last year and early in 1992.

Kuwait had said its borrowing would be in stages and that it did not want to borrow the full \$33 billion authorised by Sheikh Jaber last July to cope with post-war spending.

Kuwait's oil industry, its major source of income, was left in tatters by Iraqis in February 1991. But it has recovered much faster than initially expected and is now producing 900,000 barrels of crude per day.

"Until the government reaches the production level that will cover its needs it will have to think of other sources of achieving its cash requests," Mr. Qabandi said.

Mr. Qabandi said Kuwait had no plans to sell shares in major investments overseas. "We are not selling major investments and I don't think we will need to," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

Britain cuts interest rates

LONDON (R) — Britain cut interest rates by half a percentage point Tuesday to help stimulate recovery from the longest recession since the 1930s.

The Bank of England's cut in its key money market dealing rate was matched quickly by major commercial banks, which reduced their base lending rates to 10 per cent from 10.5.

It was the first interest rate cut in nine months. Financial analysts said it signalled the Conservative government's determination to get the economy moving after its election victory last month.

Home lenders also responded with mortgage interest rate cuts. The Halifax Building Society, the country's largest home-loan provider, cut its rates by 0.3 per cent to 10.65.

Chancellor of the Exchequer (Finance Minister) Norman Lamont said business confidence was returning after the election and that Britain was "now well placed for recovery."

"Today's interest rate cut means that interest rates are now five points below the peak. That is good news for business, good for mortgage holders and good news for the economy as a whole," Mr. Lamont said.

The government has promised recovery for more than a year. Inflation has fallen sharply in that time and the pound sterling has strengthened in the European Community currency grid, the exchange rate mechanism (ERM), since the election.

"The time was right for a cut in interest rates because of progress on inflation, the position of sterling within the ERM bands and, in addition, because it will help recovery become firmly established," a treasury spokeswoman said.

Business leaders welcomed the cut. "It will provide a useful boost to business confidence at an important time," said Sir John Banham, director general of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) employers group.

But the cut carries risks. Official British rates are now within a quarter of a percentage point of those in Germany — in theory the low-inflation benchmark for all European economies.

The pound sterling barely moved in response to the rate cut. "Real interest rates remain very high, for manufacturers especially. It is important that the downward trend is maintained," said Sir Banham of the CBI.

Mr. Lamont has forecast a one per cent rise in gross domestic product (GDP) during 1992 but many economists are more cautious, with some expecting little or no growth in the economy.

The market rate of 120 roubles to \$1 is used in everyday business. The Russian Central Bank occasionally changes the rate to keep it in line with what is being offered on the black market and by Russia's new commercial banks.

The commercial rate of 55 roubles to \$1 is used exclusively by businesses required to transfer a certain percentage of their foreign currency earnings to the government.

Mr. Kagalovsky told a news conference the government planned to merge the two rates on July 1. Sometime within the following month, it would let the rouble float and find its own value in relation to other world currencies.

"It seems to me that if the exchange (rate) is fixed at a level of 80 roubles to the dollar, that would be more or less normal for the economy," Mr. Kagalovsky said.

Turkey to sell Russia goods worth \$192 million

ANKARA (R) — Turkey will sell goods worth \$192 million to the Russian Federation this year in partial return for its natural gas purchases from Moscow, the Turkish treasury has said. It said \$142 million of the Turkish sales would be textile products, vegetable oil, pasta, iron and steel products, automobile industry products, electric motors and pumps. The remaining \$50 million would be cigarettes, medical and building materials, promised for 1991 but unfilled due to political instability leading to the break-up of the former Soviet Union.

Qabandi said.

"We won't feel the impact (of full oil production) until a year from now. So for the next two years we will have a liquidity crunch," he added.

Kuwait has spent \$1.5 billion to cap hundreds of oil wells torched by Iraq and plans to spend another \$8 billion to \$10 billion over the next three years to repair damaged facilities.

It has spent more than \$35 billion on reconstruction and paying for the war efforts of the U.S.-led military alliance which ended the Iraqi occupation.

The emirate was forced to draw down about \$25 billion of its overseas investments, estimated at \$100 billion, to get the country back on its feet and has spent another \$5 billion worth of income generated by its overseas investments.

It has a record \$18.3 billion deficit in its 1991-92 budget. Bankers and investment experts said Kuwait's London-based Kuwait Investment Office has already sold a lot of assets and its portfolio was now estimated to be worth about \$40 billion from a peak of \$100 billion before the Iraqi invasion.

Mr. Qabandi said Kuwait had no plans to sell shares in major investments overseas. "We are not selling major investments and I don't think we will need to," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

"We have a liquidity crunch. We cannot be seen buying investments, but we are selling and buying as part of market trade," he said.

Khmer Rouge launches fierce attacks

PHNOM PENH (R) — Khmer Rouge guerrillas have launched a series of attacks which U.N. peacekeepers said Tuesday were the worst violations to date of a peace agreement ending the Cambodian civil war.

The coordinated attacks were against areas held by the Phnom Penh government in the central Cambodian province of Kompong Thom.

U.N. military sources said the Khmer Rouge attacked in battalion strength after pouring hundreds of rounds from 82-mm recoilless rifles and mortars into hamlets in the Sen River Valley about 35 kilometres northeast of the provincial capital Kompong Thom.

The military sources said the attacks were the worst violation yet seen of the U.N.-sponsored Paris peace accords which were supposed to have ended the civil war.

Latest casualty figures were two Phnom Penh soldiers dead and four wounded, according to a Phnom Penh Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Khmer Rouge losses were put

at five dead and 18 wounded.

The United Nations Military Command in Phnom Penh Tuesday dispatched three companies of Indonesian paratroopers as reinforcements.

The 30-vehicle convoy was led by two mine-resistant trucks.

The 300 reinforcements will join the 200-strong garrison of Indonesian paratroopers already based in Kompong Thom.

They have been unable to deploy into the countryside because of Khmer Rouge attacks last month along the road which links Kompong Thom province with the north.

A U.N. officer who asked to remain anonymous called for satellite surveillance of Khmer Rouge positions, claiming the guerrillas were sending large reinforcements into Kompong Thom province.

He claimed the Khmer Rouge had moved more than 400 trucks into the province for the attacks.

"They've got a freeway up in that jungle," he said, referring to a major Khmer Rouge-built road to the north.

"It was certainly a coordinated attack. Our guys are up there now investigating," said a second U.N. officer, based in Phnom Penh.

The Khmer Rouge, blamed for the deaths of more than a million Cambodians during their brutal 1975-79 rule, are the strongest of Cambodia's guerrilla factions.

The latest fighting led the Phnom Penh government to question the effectiveness of the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC).

"It seems UNTAC is a hostage of the Khmer Rouge... what does UNTAC do if one party does not implement the accord?" one senior Foreign Ministry official said.

UNTAC's military commander, General John Anderson of Australia, has been in Kompong Thom for the past two days for urgent briefings with senior U.N. liaison officers.

UNTAC officers said the latest Khmer Rouge attacks were part of a land grab before the implementation of stage two of the peace accords which call for demobilisation by June 7 of 70 per

cent of the forces of the four factions which fought the civil war.

The accords signed by the Cambodian factions last Oct. 23 paved the way for the eventual deployment of 23,000 U.N. peacekeepers charged with supervising the running of the country ahead of elections scheduled for April 1993.

Meanwhile, Ieng Sary, "brother number two" in the Khmer Rouge hierarchy, says he spends his retirement pottering around his garden and worrying about the environment.

The Communist group, whose rule claimed the lives of one million Cambodians, "made mistakes" in the past, he concedes.

But asked about international demands that he and other Khmer Rouge leaders stand trial for genocide, he shrugs and says: "It's up to them."

Ieng Sary, officially retired from the Khmer Rouge leadership, was speaking over lunch Monday in the Khmer Rouge village of Phum Thmei where he now lives, in a rare meeting with foreign reporters.

Belgrade giving up control of army in Bosnia

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Army artillery pounded Sarajevo Tuesday, leaving the mountain-ringed Bosnian capital cloaked in flames and smoke and its streets strewn with corpses. Most European Community (EC) monitors pulled out.

European Community and United Nations officials sought to arrange a truce in the former Yugoslav republic, but were frustrated by the collapsing telephone system and by the recalcitrance of the warring parties.

Bosnia's leaders have asked for foreign military intervention. Also Tuesday, the presidency of the new, Serb-dominated Yugoslavia said it was giving up command of federal army troops in Bosnia, and urged warring factions there to take over the military themselves.

The announcement appeared to be an effort by the truncated Yugoslavia, consisting only of Serbia and allied Montenegro, to extricate itself from a political disaster while not necessarily giving up on Serb control of large parts of Bosnia.

Since Bosnia has been recognised as independent and a new Yugoslavia without it has been proclaimed, the Yugoslav army has been subject to accusations that it is an occupying force and an aggressor. The EC says it will not recognise the new Yugoslavia as long as the army remains active in Bosnia.

The army late Monday announced that it was pulling Serbian and Montenegrin soldiers from Bosnia within 15 days. On Tuesday, the presidency added that "there is no more basis" for troops remaining to be under federal command.

It urged Bosnia's Muslims, Serbs and Croats to come to an agreement on dividing up the army, something that would be exceedingly difficult.

Meanwhile, U.N. envoy Markack Goulding, who arrived in Belgrade Monday, landed in a helicopter in Pale, a Serbian stronghold about 15 kilometres east of Sarajevo Tuesday.

He was unable to travel to the Bosnian capital because of heavy fighting on the road between Pale and Sarajevo. A column of the U.N. armoured personnel carriers, which was supposed to pick up Mr. Goulding, returned to Sarajevo because local ceasefire could not be established.

Mr. Goulding was scheduled to discuss possible deployment of U.N. peacekeepers in Bosnia.

While Mr. Goulding was stuck outside, Sarajevo burned. Buildings in the old Turkish quarter Basarsija and the city's business centre were ablaze.

There were a large number of dead and wounded on the streets. Police spokesman Senad Mesovic said the bodies of four people had been collected, but that the death toll was much higher.

Radio Sarajevo said: "This is the picture of the capital of the sovereign state of Bosnia-Herzegovina on the morning of May 5, 1992: A sad picture includes a large number of dead lying on the city's streets, on its pavement, and a large number of wounded who cannot be given even the most basic help."

Bosnia's Territorial Defence force, made up of Muslims and Croats, gave the federal army an ultimatum to pull out of Sarajevo by midnight (2200 GMT) Wednesday, the Belgrade-based Tanjug News Agency said.

It said the army would be guaranteed safe passage if it kept to the deadline. But federal commanders might not trust any such guarantee after an army convoy promised safe passage was attacked apparently by Muslim forces in Sarajevo Sunday.

More than 400 people have been killed in clashes since the Feb. 29 independence vote by Bosnia's ethnic Croats and Muslims, who make up almost two-thirds of Bosnia's 4.3 million people. Serbs boycotted the vote because they opposed independence.

The fighting, which intensified after April 7 when Bosnia was recognised by the United States and Europe, pits Muslims and Croats against Serbs, who are backed by the federal army.

Fighting between Muslims and Serb-led forces Tuesday morning was reported in Sarajevo's Butmir and Svrakino Selo suburbs, where federal army barracks are located.

Twenty-five EC monitors abandoned Bosnia, leaving a skeleton crew of 10 in Sarajevo.

Monitors said they were temporarily reducing their mission in Bosnia for security reasons. A Belgian monitor was killed in southwestern Bosnia.

Belarus official sees no great radiation danger

MOSCOW (R) — Fires sweeping through fields and woodland contaminated by the 1986 Chernobyl nuclear disaster raised radiation levels in some parts of Belarus but are not a major danger, a government expert said Tuesday.

"At first we feared there could be a great danger of radiation spreading, but fortunately there is no major threat," said Ivan Kenik, chairman of the Belarus state committee on Chernobyl.

"The fire brigades will put out all the fires by the end of the day," a local journalist quoted him as saying.

He added that there had been a slight rise in radiation in Kalinkovich, a town near Gomel, one of the areas worst affected by the fire and explosion at Chernobyl, 125 kilometres across the border in neighbouring Ukraine.

But in other areas, no change in radiation levels was recorded, he said.

ITAR-TASS News Agency re-

ported earlier that radioactive particles were being spread by the wind to previously uncontaminated areas.

The fires in the former Soviet republic, a major grain producing area and livestock centre, broke out after a period of hot, dry weather.

A local journalist said most of the fires had started on peat workings near the Chernobyl reactor.

Belarus Interior Ministry officials said smoke from the fires contained radioactive strontium and caesium.

Many residents abandoned areas around Gomel after the Chernobyl disaster, which killed 31 people in its immediate aftermath and scattered radiation across much of Europe and Scandinavia.

Ukrainian authorities estimate that 6,000 to 8,000 people have died since being exposed to radiation, with cases of cancer and other diseases increasing.

North Korean premier arrives for Seoul talks

SEOUL (R) — North Korean Prime Minister Yon Hyong-Muk arrived in South Korea Tuesday for talks aimed at easing four decades of enmity across the world's last cold war frontier.

"Now our brethren are eagerly awaiting reconciliation and peace..." a North Korean spokesman said as Mr. Yon and his 89-member entourage arrived at Seoul's Shilla Hotel.

"Our delegates assure you that we will talk in good faith so that the meeting this time will bear a new good fruit," the spokesman said in a statement.

Mr. Yon's two days of formal talks with South Korean Prime Minister Chung Won-Shik, beginning Wednesday, will focus on the contentious issue of mutual inspections of nuclear facilities in the North and South as well as implementation of non-aggression accords agreed last December.

South Korea, the United States and Japan fear North Korea is building a bomb at its Yongbyon plant 90 kilometres north of Pyongyang. The North denies any ambition for nuclear weapons.

Seoul officials hope the premier's talks, the seventh in a series which began in September 1990, will reduce differences over the proposed establishment of liaison offices and several other steps on the road to peace.

The two sides have held a series of talks at the border in the past two months to discuss the non-aggression pact, which re-

nounces slander and subversion and provides early-warning mechanisms to prevent an accidental outbreak of war.

But discussions became bogged down in procedural wrangles.

"Our side expects the talks this time to produce accords on liaison offices and the formation of various joint commissions to implement provisions of the non-aggression pact," said a spokesman for the South-North Dialogue Office in Seoul.

He said the two sides remained far apart over ways to implement the non-aggression pact. Pyongyang insists all measures be discussed and implemented simultaneously while Seoul prefers a step-by-step approach.

"I believe the North will soften its stance and may accommodate some of our positions so that the talks can make headway," the spokesman said.

In a move raising hopes for the talks, North Korea Monday presented an initial report on its nuclear facilities and materials to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

The report, which South Korean officials said was presented earlier than expected, will enable IAEA inspectors to move ahead with inspections of the North's nuclear sites.

South Korean officials have, however, said IAEA inspections will not reveal the whole truth about the North's nuclear programme. They want inter-Korean inspections as soon as possible.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Russia to sell rockets to India

NEW DELHI (R) — Russia will go ahead with the sale of rocket engines to India despite U.S. threats of trade penalties, Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Gennadiy Burbulis said Tuesday. He also said Russian President Boris Yeltsin would visit India in the second half of this year to sign a treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation. The United States said Monday that Russia's \$250 million contract to sell rocket engines to India could lead to trade penalties for both countries. State Department spokeswoman Margaret Tutwiler said the sale would violate the missile technology control regime, an agreement among Western states to limit the spread of missile technology, particularly to the developing world. While Russia has not signed the agreement, it has agreed to abide by it. Russia plans to sell rocket engines to India, which is trying to develop a satellite-launching capability. India is to start taking delivery of the engines by 1994 under the contract signed last year between the Russian space agency Glavkosmos and the Indian Space Research Organisation.

U.S. seeks access in Asia-Pacific

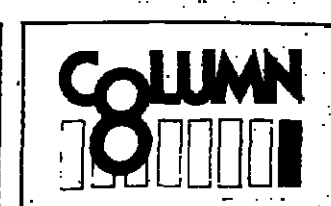
SYDNEY (R) — The United States wants to gain access to military facilities to ensure regional security in the Asia-Pacific region rather than establish bases, the U.S. Pacific commander said Tuesday. "I think we are really into... a funding environment where to build new bases would be very, very difficult," said Admiral Charles Larson, commander in chief, U.S. Pacific Command. "We are also quite comfortable that with the expanded access in areas where we already have bases that we will be able to carry the day," he told the Foreign Correspondents' Association, Australia and South Pacific. Adm. Larson also said the United States was prepared to play a proxy peacekeeping role in Cambodia from "over the horizon." "One of the roles I feel my forces can play is that I do have the flexibility and mobility and the power from offshore... if called upon to be a guarantor," he said.

Pravda publishes 80th birthday issue

MOSCOW (AP) — Pravda, the former Communist Party newspaper now struggling to survive, celebrated its 80th birthday Tuesday with a special edition financed by donations. "Pravda is 80 today," trumpeted a headline across the top of the newspaper's front page. "May the day of May 5 remain a joyous red-letter day," gushed a birthday message of Pravda's workers and readers. Pravda said the four-page birthday issue was paid for by the Pravda Support Fund set up after the bankrupt newspaper suspended publication in March. The fund now totals 2.3 million rubles (\$19,166), which will also cover the cost for printing and distributing two more issues, the newspaper said.

U.S. concerned about Tajikistan

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States Monday said it was concerned about rising political tensions in the former Soviet Republic of Tajikistan, where the conservative leadership has threatened to use "Los Angeles-style force" to restore calm. "The U.S. government expresses its hope that the Tajik government and the opposition can resolve their differences peacefully and democratically," the State Department said in a written statement. It also called on "all sides to refrain from violence or any actions which might exacerbate tensions further."



Russian patients have to provide own bandages

MOSCOW (R) — Sick people in a Russian town have to provide their own bandages and bed linen before they can undergo surgery, ITAR-TASS News Agency reported Sunday. "If not, they have to do without hospital treatment," the agency said, adding that the Central Hospital in the eastern Russian town of Ussuriysk could not afford its own bedclothes. Supplies of surgical dressings to the hospital had been halted and patients could only be sure of an operation if they brought their own surgical gauze with them, TASS added. "If the patient needs an operation he has to present six, and better still 12, metres of surgical gauze to the Surgical Department. Otherwise the operation might not take place," it said.

Many residents abandoned areas around Gomel after the Chernobyl disaster, which killed 31 people in its immediate aftermath and scattered radiation across much of Europe and Scandinavia.

Ukrainian authorities estimate that 6,000 to 8,000 people have died since being exposed to radiation, with cases of cancer and other diseases increasing.

Germans find forest in shape of Nazi Swastika

BERLIN (R) — German officials said they had discovered a forest in the shape of a huge Nazi Swastika probably planted 60 years ago by the Hitler youth. The forest near the East German town of Zernikow measures more than 100 metres from tip to tip and can be seen only from the air. It is especially vivid when its larch trees turn bright green in spring and yellow in autumn.

Gunter Reschke, a regional government official, said he discovered the forest while looking through aerial photographs taken in 1988. Research showed that the larches were apparently planted in the shape of the Swastika in the mid-1930s, during the Nazi Third Reich, by village children in the Hitler Youth.

"The planting obviously had a clear political motive," he told Reuters by telephone.

Baby born on Brooklyn Bridge

NEW YORK (AP) — A newborn got an early introduction to commuting: She was born during rush hour on the Brooklyn Bridge. Marabel Almodovar gave birth in a car on the bridge's westbound lane as housing police officers tried to take her from her home in Brooklyn to St. Vincent's Hospital, on the other side of the East River in Manhattan, said hospital spokeswoman Carol Ranaghan. The officers wanted to take Almodovar to a hospital in Brooklyn, but she insisted on going to St. Vincent's. When mother and child finally got to the hospital, they were declared in good condition. Ariel Elyssa Degado weighed in at 7 pounds, 15 ounces (3.6 kilograms), Ranaghan said.

Thatcher tipped to become countess

LONDON (R) — Former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is to be offered a hereditary earldom, the Daily Mail newspaper said in its Tuesday edition. It said the peerage would be offered by her successor, John Major, in an honour list to be published at the end of May. Life peerages — when the title disappears on the death of the holder — are common honours in British politics but hereditary peerages are rare. If Mrs. Thatcher accepts the title her entrepreneur son Mark would become an earl when his mother dies. Mrs. Thatcher, ousted as party leader by a backbench revolt in November 1990, was prime minister for 11 years and took the Conservative Party to three straight election victories. The Mail said soundings amongst her close friends suggested that Mrs. Thatcher, 66, might accept the earldom which would give her the title of countess. She campaigned for Mr. Major in last month's British general election but stepped down as a member of parliament.

It said the peerage would be offered by her successor, John Major, in an honour list to be published at the end of May. Life peerages — when the title disappears on the death of the holder — are common honours in British politics but hereditary peerages are rare. If Mrs. Thatcher accepts the title her entrepreneur son Mark would become an earl when his mother dies. Mrs. Thatcher, ousted as party leader by a backbench revolt in November 1990, was prime minister for 11 years and took the Conservative Party to three straight election victories. The Mail said soundings amongst her close friends suggested that Mrs. Thatcher, 66, might accept the earldom which would give her the title of countess. She campaigned for Mr. Major in last month's British general election but stepped down as a member of parliament.

China earmarks \$13m to guard relics

PEKING (R) — The Chinese government, alarmed at the rampant theft of archaeological treasures, has earmarked 70 million yuan (\$12.73 million) this year to protect the nation's heritage. Part of the money will help build security systems and storehouses for cultural relics, while the rest will go toward archaeological exploration, the overseas edition of the People's Daily said. It said the amount would rise next year to an annual 80 million yuan (\$14.55 million), against 50 million yuan (\$9.10 million) for 1991. Chinese scholars have expressed alarm at the lack of protection of ancient sites, saying untold quantities of cultural treasures are pilfered or destroyed every year.

ANC criticises S. African cabinet reshuffle

JOHANNESBURG (R) — The African National Congress (ANC) Tuesday criticised a reshuffle in President F.W. de Klerk's all-white cabinet and called for the participation of blacks in a new government.

The ANC said while replacements had to be found for two ministers, who are stepping down due to exhaustion, rapid progress was needed in multi-party talks on a democratic constitution.

"President De Klerk's major cabinet reshuffle carries with it the implication that the government is proceeding with policies unilaterally," an ANC statement said.

"The way forward lies with the urgent establishment of an interim government of national unity as rapidly as possible, so that elections can be held and we have a cabinet and government that reflects the will of all the people of this country, not merely the white minority," it said.

Mr. De Klerk announced Monday night that Trade and Industry Minister Derek Keys will take over the finance portfolio from Barend Du Plessis. Defence Minister Roelf Meyer will replace Gerrit Viljoen as constitutional development minister.

The white-led government and Nelson Mandela's ANC are the main protagonists in 19-party democracy talks under way since December.

Officials report some progress at the talks but agreement remains elusive on key points such as the form of a transitional government and constitution-making body and the reincorporation of black homelands established under apartheid.

Mr. De Klerk said Mr. Keys, recruited from the Gencor Mining and Industrial Corporation in January to be trade and industry minister, would add finance to his portfolio, which includes economic coordination.

Mr. De Klerk said Mr. Keys, recruited from the Gencor Mining and Industrial Corporation in January to be trade and industry minister, would add finance to his portfolio, which includes economic coordination.

Youths smash, loot stores in Toronto

TORONTO (R) — Youths smashed scores of shop windows, looted stores and stoned Toronto's City Hall in a protest Monday against the police shooting of a black man over the weekend.

About 300 demonstrators, both black and white, rampaged along the main shopping street, smashing windows with bricks and looting jewellery and stereo stores.

"There were about 50 to 70 people involved in the smash-and-crash. The rest of them were along for the titillation," police spokesman Detective Sergeant Richard Dewhurst said.

Looting was sporadic. There were few arrests and no serious injuries, he said.

Trouble started after a crowd

of 400 demonstrated outside the U.S. consulate to protest against last week's acquittal of police officers charged in the beating of black motorist Rodney King in Los Angeles and the weekend shooting of a black youth in Toronto by police.

They clashed briefly with a handful of white supremacists who were hustled to safety by police. The demonstrators then blocked a major intersection for nearly an hour before stoning City Hall.

The crowd then smashed scores of window along Yonge street, the city's main shopping centre. Black activists were angered by the death in Toronto Saturday of a black man shot by police in an

anti-drug operation. His death brought appeals from black leaders and the chief of police for calm in Canada's largest city.

It was the eighth police shooting of a black person in Toronto since August 1988 and put authorities on the alert after the Los Angeles race riots.

Earlier Monday, Justice Minister Kim Campbell told parliament she planned to introduce legislation to limit the force a police officer can use under the so-called fleeing felon rule in the criminal code.

But she rejected a demand by opposition New Democratic Party member Howard McCurdy, the only black in the House of Commons, for a commission to study racism in the justice system.

Mr. Bush had more than 1,122 delegates, and with more than the 1,105 needed for nomination, the remaining counts would serve to bolster his support and begin to end the challenge of Patrick Buchanan.

While his aides decried the "politicising" of the Los Angeles riots, Mr. Bush Monday announced more than \$600 million in federal aid to help rebuild riot-torn neighbourhoods.

Mr. Buchanan invested heavily in North Carolina's contest, where he said he hoped to capture 30 per cent and repeat Ronald Reagan's 1976 performance there, where he lost to Gerald Ford but revived a flagging campaign.

Meanwhile Texas billionaire Ross Perot urged caution Monday in accepting a free trade agreement with Mexico, saying it could cause huge job losses in the United States.

Mr. Perot said the United States, which is negotiating towards a possible free trade zone incorporating both Mexico and Canada, is in a "very vulnerable position" because of its massive debt and poor education system.

"Just to suddenly throw the doors open will really, really wipe out the jobs of millions of people in this country," he said in a speech to the Association for Investment Management and Research National Conference.

Mr. Perot said he is not against "fair, free trade" but the United States had a poor record of negotiating trade pacts.

Mr. Perot also told reporters he had not criticised Mr. Bush for his handling of the Los Angeles riots as some media reports indicated. "I said we all have different styles, so I'm not criticising his style at all," he said.

Mr. Perot said a petition campaign to get his name on the Nov. 3 election ballots in all 50 states is going well. He plans to announce in June whether he will run for president.

Canada's Arctic residents vote for new territory

YELLOWKNIFE, Northwest Territories, Canada (R) — Residents of Canada's Arctic region narrowly approved a plan that would split the vast Northwest Territories in two and create a new homeland for thousands of native people.

Results showed 54 per cent voted in favour of the division that carves a new Eskimo territory called Nunavut out of a land of tundra and ice stretching from the Manitoba border to the tip of Ellesmere Island on the Arctic Ocean.

The plebiscite pitted the mainly Eskimo population of the eastern and central Arctic against the mainly native Indian and white population of the western Arctic.

Chief Northwest Territories plebiscite officer David Hamilton said 15,484 of the 27,390 eligible voters cast ballots, with 8,334 favouring the division and 7,020 opposing it. There were 130 spoiled ballots.

Eskimo leaders said the margin of victory was narrower than they had expected, but were still delighted with results that brought their dream of self-government closer to reality.

"What this vote will do is divide the Northwest Territories into two and it will bring our government closer to the people," said Eskimo leader Jack Kupeuna, vice-president of the Tungavik Federation of Nunavut, a native political group.

"It means that most of the elected officials of the government will be Inuit (Eskimos)," he said.

The Northwest Territories cover one third of Canada, the second largest country in the world by geographical size, and has a population of about 55,000 people.

The new Nunavut territory would extend over one-fifth of Canada's land mass, with 80 per cent of its 22,000 residents being Eskimos living above the tree line.

Indians in the western Arctic bitterly opposed the territorial division, saying it would undermine their own demands for self-government and control of resources.

Other opponents feared the northern economy would suffer through creation of a second expensive bureaucracy.

Ratification by Canada's parliament is needed before the new territory finally comes into existence in 1999.

The government also would give the Inuit \$80 million Canadian dollars, or about \$490 million, over 14 years.